



Epstein's guards worked extreme OT shifts morning of death

NEW YORK (AP) — Guards on Jeffrey Epstein's unit were working extreme overtime shifts to make up for staffing shortages the morning of his apparent suicide, a person familiar with the jail's operations told The Associated Press. The person said that the Metropolitan Correctional Center's Special Housing Unit was staffed with one guard working a fifth straight day of overtime and another who was working mandatory overtime. The person wasn't authorized to discuss jail operations publicly and spoke Sunday on the condition of anonymity. The jail staff failed to follow protocols leading up to Epstein's death, according to a report from The New York Times, deepening the fallout from what led to the highly connected financier's apparent suicide.



In this July 30, 2008 file photo, Jeffrey Epstein appears in court in West Palm Beach, Fla.

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Associated Press



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Continued from Front

Epstein should have been checked on by guards in his cell every 30 minutes, but that didn't happen the night before his apparent suicide, a law enforcement official told the Times.

The Times spoke to the official on the condition of anonymity. The Associated Press has not independently confirmed the information.

A law enforcement source also told the Times he was alone in his cell early Saturday after his cellmate was transferred. An official with knowledge of the investigation told the paper that the Justice Department was told Epstein would have a cellmate and be monitored by a guard every 30 minutes.

The mystery surrounding how he was able to kill himself in jail comes as investigators have been digging into allegations of sexual abuse and conspiracy against Epstein. An additional federal investigation was launched Saturday after the Federal Bureau of Prison said Epstein was found unresponsive in his cell at a high-security jail in Manhattan. He was later pronounced dead from an apparent suicide, the BOP said.

New York City's chief medical examiner released a statement Sunday evening saying an autopsy has been performed on Epstein, but that more information is needed before a cause of death determination is made.

Dr. Barbara Sampson said a city medical examiner performed the autopsy Sunday while a private pathologist observed the examination at the request of Epstein's representatives.

The private pathologist, Dr. Michael Baden, was the city's chief medical examiner in the late 1970s and has been called as an expert witness in high-profile cases including by the defense at O.J. Simpson's 1994 murder trial.

Sampson said having a private pathologist observe an autopsy is a routine practice.

Epstein's abrupt death cuts short a criminal prosecution that could have pulled

back the curtain on the inner workings of the high-flying financier with connections to celebrities and presidents, though prosecutors have vowed to continue investigating.

Epstein had been placed on suicide watch after he was found a little over two weeks ago with bruising on his neck, according to a person familiar with the matter who wasn't authorized to discuss it publicly. But he was taken off the watch at the end of July and therefore wasn't on it at the time of his death, the person said.

Attorney General William Barr, calling for an investigation by the FBI and the Justice Department's inspector general's office, said he was "appalled" to learn of Epstein's death while in federal custody.

"Mr. Epstein's death raises serious questions that must be answered," Barr said in a statement.

Epstein, 66, had been denied bail and faced up to 45 years behind bars on federal sex trafficking and conspiracy charges unsealed last month. He had pleaded not guilty and was awaiting trial.

The federal investigation into the allegations remains ongoing, U.S. Attorney Geoffrey Berman said. He noted in a statement Saturday that the indictment against Epstein includes a conspiracy charge, suggesting others could face charges in the case.

Epstein's death raises questions about how the Bureau of Prisons ensures the welfare of such high-profile inmates. In October, Boston gangster James "Whitey" Bulger was killed in a federal prison in West Virginia where he had just been transferred.

Nebraska Sen. Ben Sasse, a Republican member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, wrote Saturday in a scathing letter to Barr that "heads must roll" after the incident.

"Every single person in the Justice Department — from your Main Justice headquarters staff all the way to the night-shift jailer — knew that this man was a suicide risk, and that his dark secrets couldn't be allowed



New York City medical examiner personnel leave their vehicle and walk to the Manhattan Correctional Center where financier Jeffrey Epstein died by suicide while awaiting trial on sex-trafficking charges, Saturday Aug. 10, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

to die with him," Sasse wrote.

Epstein's removal from suicide watch would have been approved by both the warden of the jail and the facility's chief psychologist, said Jack Donson, a former prison official who worked for the Bureau of Prisons for more than two decades.

On Friday, more than 2,000 pages of documents were released related to a since-settled lawsuit against Epstein's ex-girlfriend by Virginia Giuffre, one of Epstein's accusers. The records contain graphic allegations against Epstein, as well as the transcript of a 2016 deposition of Epstein in which he repeatedly refused to answer questions to avoid incriminating himself.

Giuffre, in an interview with The New York Times, said she's grateful Epstein will never harm anyone again, but is angry that there would be no chance to see him answer for his conduct. "We've worked so hard to get here, and he stole that from us, too," she told the newspaper.

Sigrid McCawley, Giuffre's attorney, said Epstein's suicide less than 24 hours after the documents were unsealed "is no coincidence."

McCawley urged authorities to continue their investigation, focusing on Epstein associates who she said "participated and facilitated Epstein's horrifying sex trafficking scheme." Epstein's arrest drew national attention, particularly focusing on a deal that allowed Epstein to plead guilty in 2008 to soliciting a minor for prostitution in Florida and avoid more serious federal charges.

Federal prosecutors in New York reopened the probe after investigative reporting by The Miami Herald stirred

outrage over that plea bargain. His lawyers maintained that the new charges in New York were covered by the 2008 plea deal and that Epstein hadn't had any illicit contact with underage girls since serving his 13-month sentence in Florida. Before his legal troubles, Epstein led a life of extraordinary luxury that drew powerful people into his orbit. He socialized with princes and presidents, and lived on a 100-acre private Caribbean island and one of the biggest mansions in New York. □

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Trump: Kim wants to meet again, apologized for missile tests

By JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

BERKELEY HEIGHTS, N.J.

(AP) — President Donald

Trump said Saturday that North Korea's Kim Jong Un wants to meet once again to "start negotiations" after joint U.S.-South Korea military exercises end. He also said Kim apologized for the flurry of recent short-range missile tests that has rattled U.S. allies in the region.

Trump is tweeting more details from the "beautiful" three-page letter he told reporters on Friday that he'd received from Kim. Trump, who is on vacation at his golf club in New Jersey, said Kim spent much of his letter complaining about "the ridiculous and expensive exercises," which North Korea sees as a threat.

He said Kim offered him "a small apology" for the recent tests and assured him "that this testing would stop when the exercises end." North Korea on Saturday fired what appeared to be two short-range ballistic missiles into the sea, according to South Korea's military — the fifth round of launches in less than three weeks.

"I look forward to seeing Kim Jong Un in the not too distant future!" Trump wrote.

The two leaders have met three times — in Singapore, Hanoi and at the Korean Demilitarized Zone — but critics say Trump has received few concessions in

the standoff over North Korea's nuclear weapons program in exchange for the meetings.

At their second summit in Vietnam in February, Trump rejected Kim's demand for widespread sanctions relief in exchange for dismantling the North's main nuclear complex, a partial disarmament step.

The U.S. and South Korea have scaled down their major military exercises since Trump and Kim's first summit in June 2018. But the North insists even the downsized drills violate agreements between Kim and Trump and compel it to "develop, test and deploy the powerful physical means essential for national defense."

When they last met in June of this year, Trump and Kim agreed to resume working-level nuclear talks that have been stalled since February, but there have been no known meetings between the two sides since then. □



President Donald Trump talks to reporters on the South Lawn of the White House, Friday, Aug. 9, 2019, in Washington, as he prepares to leave Washington for his annual August holiday at his New Jersey golf club.

Associated Press



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Biden is still the Democrat to beat, but rivals see weakness

Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — In a barn down a gravel road in Iowa, Joe Biden tore into President Donald Trump's moral character, declaring in one of the fiercest speeches of his campaign that the words of the American president matter.

The next day, Biden's own words tripped him up. He told an audience in Des Moines that poor children are "just as bright and just as talented as white kids," before immediately clarifying his remarks.

The back-to-back episodes magnified the promise and the peril of Biden's candidacy. Three months after announcing his White House bid, he remains atop early polling for Democratic candidates, buoyed by a long history with voters and a belief among many of them that his decades of experience best position him to defeat Trump. Those attributes appear to have helped the former vice president withstand weeks of attacks on his lengthy record in politics.

But Biden's rivals remain confident that his fumbles,

like the one in Iowa this week, eventually will catch up to him, undermining his electability argument.

"He has been durable," said David Axelrod, a longtime political strategist for President Barack Obama. "The question is whether that durability is because we aren't fully geared into the race or whether there are inherent strengths there."

Biden's team has been heartened by the consistency of his early polling numbers, despite the push from fellow candidates to cast the 76-year-old as out of step with the Democratic Party on women's health issues and race. Nearly every survey, both nationally and in the early primary states, shows him leading the crowded primary field, with Sens. Elizabeth Warren, Bernie Sanders and Kamala Harris following behind but so far unable to find a way to surpass him.

"It's because people know him. And they don't know just his name," said Jack Markell, the former Delaware governor and a Biden supporter. "If it were just name recognition, these

polls may look different."

Biden's standing in the race is the subject of much debate within the Democratic Party. Advisers to other campaigns contend that polling at this stage of the race is often fluid, reflecting little more than name recognition. Biden aides frequently note that Trump led polls throughout the summer of 2015 and never relinquished the top spot.

What is clear is that some of Biden's rivals see an imperative to begin taking him on aggressively. Sanders has walloped Biden repeatedly over health care, comparing the former vice president's opposition to a "Medicare for All" system to Trump. Harris, as well as New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, has hammered Biden over comments he made about working with segregationists during his early years in the Senate.

Biden initially appeared caught off guard by the ferocity of the attacks on his 40-plus-year record in politics, particularly Harris' blistering critique in the first debate of his past opposition to federally mandated

busing to combat segregated schools. Now advisers view that moment as a much needed jolt for the candidate, making clear to Biden that he would need to draw sharper distinctions with his Democratic rivals during the primary and not just focus his fire on Trump. Since then, Biden has drawn contrasts with more liberal Democrats, like Warren and Sanders, over their proposals to do away with private health insurance and replace it with a government-run system. He's also vigorously defended Obama, the most popular Democrat in the nation who nevertheless has faced criticism from liberals who believe he didn't go far enough on health care and was too aggressive in deporting immigrants living illegally in the United States. "(Biden's) done a better job since then trying to hug up to Obama as much as possible," said Jim Hodges, the former Democratic governor of South Carolina, who is yet to endorse a candidate. "That's his strength here."

Indeed, Biden's campaign is eager to focus more on his eight years as vice president than the decades that preceded his time in the White House. Advisers believe his years serving as No. 2 to the nation's first black president resonate particularly well with African American voters, one of the most powerful segments of the Democratic electorate. Biden also evolved into a beloved elder statesman for many Democrats during those years, particularly after the 2015 death of his son Beau, who succumbed to brain cancer at age 46.

"It just hurts me to see what some people are saying about him," said Linda Robinson, a retired health care worker who heard Biden speak in Boone, Iowa. Robinson, who caucused for Biden in 2008 but hasn't decided who has her support this year, called the former vice president a "decent man."

The attacks from Harris and others have also prompted

Biden advisers to encourage the former vice president to step up his campaign activities, including more question-and-answer sessions with voters and reporters, an approach that has been on display during his four-day Iowa swing. But that comes with risk for a freewheeling politician with a history of verbal fumbles. At the start of the week, Biden got the locations of two back-to-back mass shootings wrong. And on Thursday night, he told voters in Des Moines that poor kids were as bright and talented as white children. He caught the flub and quickly added: "wealthy kids, black kids, Asian kids."

Defending himself on Saturday, he told a reporter that he "misspoke" and said, "I don't think anybody thinks that I meant something other than what I said I meant."

But during the same exchange with reporters, he said he "watched what happened when those kids from Parkland came up to see me when I was vice president." The shooting at the Florida high school happened in 2018, a year after Biden left office.

The former vice president's ultimate success in the race will depend in part on whether voters' warm feelings toward him will help excuse his frequent missteps or see them as a sign that the candidate — who would be the oldest president ever elected — has lost a step.

"He's always been prone to gaffes. That was true when he was in his 40s, 50s and 60s," Axelrod said. "The difference is because people are looking for signs of potential deterioration, gaffes that would be written off as Joe being Joe can become much more damaging to him."

During his Iowa trip, Biden has projected the confidence of a front-runner, rarely mentioning his primary opponents and even sitting in the front row at a state party dinner Friday night, applauding as his rivals spoke ahead of his concluding spot. □

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EPA: Newark should provide bottled water due to lead

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — The governor of New Jersey and the mayor of Newark have vowed to provide bottled water to city residents with lead service lines after tests indicate filters may not be protecting them against elevated lead levels.

Gov. Phil Murphy and Mayor Ras Baraka said, however, in a statement Sunday evening that the city and state "will need support and assistance from the federal government" to provide and distribute water to affected residents. And the Democratic leaders said long-term water distribution could affect the city's corrosion control treatment launched in May, since for the system to work properly residents must keep city water flowing through their pipes.

The joint statement came after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said recent tests had shown that drinking water in a few locations was still testing high for lead despite filters, and "out of an abundance of caution" residents should use bottled water for drinking and cooking. An EPA letter to city and state leaders said bottled water should be provided "as soon as possible" and warned that the agency was prepared to take action to ensure protection

of public health should the state and city not act. The city is expanding tests of filtered drinking water to more Newark homes and "is actively working with the filter manufacturer to determine the scope of the situation and identify required corrective action as soon as possible," the mayor and governor said. They said a reduction in lead levels was expected by year's end due to the corrosion control system, with initial tests leaving officials optimistic that the system would eventually provide the protective coating necessary to prevent leaching from lead pipes.

"But to continue these trends, residents must continue to keep city water flowing through their pipes because this is necessary to move the orthophosphate through the system and form a protective coating around the inner lining of the pipes," they said. NJ.com reported that Baraka told NJ Advance Media earlier Sunday the city would provide bottled water as "a preliminary caution, I just think people want to be cautious about it."

"It's not going to hurt anybody to give out the water," he said.

"We are going to do it until we figure out if the issue is

the filter."

On Saturday, Baraka said it isn't clear why the filters — which are nationally certified and used across the country — weren't removing lead at expected levels. He urged residents to flush the water for five minutes before using the filters, but didn't mention the EPA's request for bottled water distribution. □



In this July 16, 2019, file photo, New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy talks with reporters after a bill signing ceremony in Berkeley Heights, N.J.

Associated Press

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Fiat Chrysler deal gives Detroit residents 1st crack at jobs

DETROIT (AP) — Marie Davis wants better medical insurance coverage. Jimmie Pleasant has been out of work for six months.

Both are among the thousands of people who are looking for jobs with Fiat Chrysler under a city program that gives Detroit's residents first crack at the application process. It's part of a \$108 million land development deal between an automaker that's building a massive new plant and a city where the unemployment rate is more than twice the national average.

Detroit officials hope the deal with Fiat Chrysler will mean residents have a better shot at good-paying jobs with the automaker, although Fiat Chrysler is obligated only to consider Detroit residents for the work before opening up the jobs to others. Fiat Chrysler is getting land and tax breaks to build in Detroit. "I sat with FCA (Fiat Chrysler) and I said this: 'I'm going to give you what you want,'" Mayor Mike Duggan said. "We clear the land and give it to them. I want a window where Detroiters apply for the jobs first. No one in this country has ever got the preference."

Many cities have workforce development programs to prepare people for jobs and make them aware of available employment, but Detroit's requirements that residents receive priority in job interviews and the application registration process are unique, said Tamara Atkinson, chief executive for the regional non-profit Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce



In this Aug. 6, 2019 photo, Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan speaks with Detroit residents during a job readiness event where they pre-registered to apply for jobs at a coming Fiat Chrysler assembly plant on the eastside and another nearby facility operated by the automaker.

Associated Press

Board in Austin, Texas.

"I have not come across another city that is as intentional in how Detroit is using city incentives to prioritize a local hire campaign," Atkinson said.

Detroit has made gains since its 2014 exit from the largest municipal bankruptcy in history, and its population seems to have stabilized at around 680,000 — less than half of the 1.8 million who lived there in the 1950s.

Duggan wants those who stuck it out during Detroit's lean years to stay. More than 24,000 residents have created accounts on the city's Detroit at Work website and registered for job readiness events tied to the Fiat Chrysler openings. The automaker expects to hire about 4,900 mostly production jobs at the new plant and a nearby facility, with

pay starting at just over \$17 per hour. Laid-off and temporary Fiat Chrysler workers will get to apply first, then Detroit residents have a 30-day window before the automaker starts taking applications from others.

"What we want is for people to own homes and raise families in this city," Duggan said. "If you're making \$60,000 you can get a nice house in the city of Detroit." Davis, 49, who has worked in property management for 25 years, said the \$220 she spends each month on health insurance takes a big chunk out of what she earns. Landing a job at Fiat Chrysler would fill the gap, she said.

"It's a very important opportunity for the benefits. I don't plan on quitting my other job," Davis added. Pleasant, 22, who has two young daughters to sup-

port and quit working as a pizza shop manager when his hours were cut.

"When they said they were allowing Detroiters to apply first, I jumped at it," Pleasant said. "A job is a job. You have to do what you have to do to make a living."

Fiat Chrysler has undergone its own recovery since the federal government's \$80 million bailout of the U.S. auto industry. Italian automaker Fiat took over Chrysler after the U.S. automaker filed for bankruptcy in 2009. It expects to spend \$1.6 billion building the new plant in Motor City.

Meanwhile, the city and state will split land acquisition and preparation costs. The city also agreed to give Fiat Chrysler about \$12.1 million in property tax abatements.

The company did not respond to requests for com-

ment about its hiring plans. However, when city leaders approved the land deal in May, Mark Stewart, chief operating officer for Fiat Chrysler North America, said: "We're putting Michigan and Detroit first. This is our home. We're very proud."

The deal likely will put some Detroit residents into jobs they otherwise would not get, said Michigan State University economist Charles Ballard. But he cautioned that the unemployed rate may change only a little, as many unemployed people may not have the necessary skills to work in an auto industry that's been changed by technology.

"This is true of unemployed all across the country," Ballard said. "The group that's more likely to be unemployed is the group that has less education and less skill."

The city's unemployment rate was 8.8% in May, according to Michigan's Department of Technology, Management and Budget, compared with 4.2% statewide and 3.6% nationwide. "We know those jobs are pathways to middle-class lives and we know that elected officials will continue to offer these incentives because they need to claim credit," Ted De Barbieri, associate law professor at Albany Law School in New York. "Whether a project was going to move forward anyway or if it doesn't come, an elected official can say, 'I did all I can do.' It shows the importance of employers to local elected officials. We know that constituents need jobs." □

Escaped Tennessee inmate captured after 5-day manhunt

By JOHN RABY
Associated Press

A Tennessee convict suspected of killing a corrections administrator before escaping prison on a tractor was captured Sunday seven hours after homeowners recognized him on their outdoor surveillance camera, authorities said.

Curtis Ray Watson put his hands up and was arrested as he came out of a soybean field Sunday in the west Tennessee community of Henning, Tennessee. Bureau of Investigation Director David Rausch said at a news conference. The capture ended a five-day manhunt.

The field is 10 miles (16 kilometers) from the prison. Watson escaped from Wednesday and near a home where he was seen on a surveillance camera earlier Sunday, Rausch said. The homeowners called police after one of them recognized Watson from police-issued photos. Photos provided by the residents' camera show Watson, 41, dressed in camouflage bib overalls and a hat and carrying a camp backpack. Dozens of officers mobilized in the area after the sighting.

"He had made the comment that he knew he wasn't getting away because of the number of law enforcement," Rausch said. Lauderdale County District Attorney Mark Davidson said Watson will be arraigned this week on charges of first-degree murder, especially aggravated burglary, aggravated sexual battery and escape. Davidson said the death penalty will be under consideration. "I can assure you that our office will be resolved to see that he is put back where he can never escape again and harm anybody in our communities," Davidson said.

Watson was on lawn mowing duty when the TBI says he sexually assaulted and strangled a Department

of Corrections administrator employee at her home Wednesday at the West Tennessee State Penitentiary.

TBI said Watson escaped prison grounds, and the tractor was found nearby. Authorities launched an intense manhunt after Debra Johnson's body was found with a cord wrapped around her neck Wednesday morning.

Rewards totaling \$57,000 were offered for information leading to Watson's arrest. "Tremendous news that this fugitive is back in custody," Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee said on Twitter.

Watson was discovered missing about 11 a.m. Wednesday, several hours after he was seen near the house where the 64-year-old Johnson lived on prison grounds.

According to a TBI affidavit, Watson had been released temporarily for mowing duties at 7 a.m. earlier that day, and had access to a golf cart and a tractor. As a "trustee" at the prison, he was allowed to use the equipment and had to wear a reflective vest while working on prison grounds.

Phone records show Johnson was talking on the phone at 8:10 a.m., just 20 minutes before corrections workers saw Watson in a golf cart at her house, according to the affidavit. He drove away from the prison sometime between 9 and 10 a.m. on a tractor, the affidavit said.

When Johnson didn't show up for work, co-workers discovered Johnson's body at her home at 11:30 a.m., according to the affidavit. The medical examiner declared her death a homicide by strangulation, the affidavit said.

Watson had been serving a 15-year sentence after pleading guilty to especially aggravated kidnapping in Henry County. Watson illegally confined his wife while using an aluminum baseball bat in July 2012,



This undated photo provided by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation shows Curtis Ray Watson.

Associated Press

court documents showed. His sentence began in 2013 and was set to expire in 2025, officials said.

Watson had previously

been convicted of aggravated child abuse in Carroll County. His sentence in that case expired in 2011, officials said. □

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Norway: Alleged mosque gunman suspect in stepsister's death

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — A shooting at a mosque in Norway is being investigated as an attempted terrorist attack and the alleged gunman also is a suspect in his younger stepsister's slaying, police in the Norwegian capital said Sunday.

A man in his 20s was taken into custody after the shooting inside the Al-Noor Islamic Center that wounded one person, Oslo police said. Investigators so far think no one else was involved in Saturday's violence at the mosque, located in the Oslo suburb of Baerum.

When officers went to the shooting suspect's residence, they found the body of his 17-year-old stepsister, police said Sun-



Police attend the scene after a shooting inside the al-Noor Islamic center mosque in Baerum outside Oslo.

Associated Press

day evening. The alleged mosque gunman was being investigated in her death, police said.

The Oslo Police department said forensic work at the mosque "confirms that several shots were fired, but

the number of shots and the type of weapons are not yet established."

The department said it was working with the Norwegian Police Security Service, Norway's national domestic security agency,

since the "investigation has given us a better overall understanding of the attack" at the mosque.

"The fact that the aggressor entered a mosque armed and from the investigation so far has been found to have expressed hostile attitudes against immigrants has led the police to investigate this attack as an attempted act of terrorism," the police department said in a statement.

Oslo Deputy Police Inspector Rune Skjold said during a news conference Sunday that mosque shooting was being treated as an attempted terror attack in part because the investigation uncovered evidence of the man's "right-wing extremist views" and alleged animosity toward immigrants.

"Because of that, in relation to what he's done, it's clear that what he did has

caused fear among the public, Skjold said. "And based on the views he's expressed online, it means we can safely say we are investigating an attempted act of terrorism."

Police said the suspect refused to answer questions and investigators plan to interview neighbors for information about his stepsister and her death.

Skjold said the alleged gunman was prepared to cause deaths and more injuries at the Al-Noor Islamic Center and didn't succeed because of the "great courage" of people inside the mosque.

"There is no doubt that the swift and firm response from the persons inside the mosque stopped the aggressor and prevented further consequences," Skjold said. "Trying to neutralize an armed person is always dangerous." □



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Tourists evacuated from Greek island camp as wildfire rages

By DEMETRIS NELLAS

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — A tourist camp and nearby houses on the southern Greek island of Elafonisos were evacuated Sunday for the second day in a row as a wildfire at a nearby landfill intensified because of strong winds.

Authorities had pronounced the fire "under control" Saturday night but said the flames picked back up when the wind did.

Greece's Fire Service said 121 firefighters, six airplanes and five helicopters battled the fire before it was brought back under control Sunday night.

Elafonisos, a 19 square kilometer (7 square mile) island known for its sandy beaches, has a population of about 350 but draws over 3,000 visitors daily during the summer.

Several thousand tourists left the island on scheduled ferries Sunday, a day after authorities cleared a campground for "precautionary reasons."

Some of those trying to leave the island described the evacuation as disorganized, telling The Associated Press they hadn't received an official warning but decided to leave out of concern for their safety. □

Former Sri Lankan strongman's brother to run for president

By KRISHAN FRANCIS

Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)

— Nandasena Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who was a livewire in Sri Lanka's military campaign to end a long civil war but faces allegations of human rights violations, was nominated Sunday as the opposition's candidate for the presidential election to be held later this year.

Gotabaya, a brother of former strongman President Mahinda Rajapaksa, was a powerful defense bureaucrat under his brother's government, which defeated the Tamil Tiger rebels' 26-year insurgency in 2009.

Rajapaksa announced his brother's candidacy to cheering supporters at a rally in Colombo, the South Asian island nation's capital. Earlier at the rally, Rajapaksa was named leader of the Sri Lanka People's Front, under which Gotabaya will contest.

"I thought of a man who is sought by the country's history to build a future," Rajapaksa told the gathering. "Whether I chose or not, he has become your brother, whether I chose him or not, he has already won your hearts."

"I hand over my brother as a brother to you. He is no other, he is Gotabaya," Rajapaksa said.

Gotabaya is a hero to many majority Sinhalese, who see him as a prospective strong leader, but is feared by minorities and victims of human rights abuses.

As secretary of defense ministry under his brother's rule, Gotabaya played a key role in ending the Tamil Tigers' campaign for an independent state for ethnic minority Tamils. But he was accused of using extralegal methods and cracking down on those who criticized his style.

Gotabaya was accused of running abduction squads known as "white van" squads that whisked away rebel suspects and journalists deemed to be overly critical. Some of the abductees were released after torture, while others were never seen again.



Former Sri Lankan president Mahinda Rajapaksa, left, and former Defense Secretary and his brother Gotabaya Rajapaksa wave to supporters during a party convention held to announce the presidential candidacy in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019.

Associated Press

acted to Gotabaya's candidacy, with Finance Minister Mangala Samaraweera tweeting, "Do #SriLankans want to return to the isolation and darkness of the past?"

Sri Lanka must hold the presidential election between Nov. 8 and Dec. 8. Incumbent President Maithripala Sirisena's first term ends on Jan. 8.

Gotabaya's candidacy will likely put Sirisena in a quandary in seeking a second term because the Sri Lanka People's Front is an offshoot of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, which Sirisena leads. Many Freedom Party members have sided with the Rajapaksa brothers.

No other party has put forward a presidential candidate yet. □

Gotabaya was also implicated in the killing of rebels and civilians who tried to surrender with white flags under a pre-arranged deal in the final days of the civil war. Ethnic Tamils say they handed over their children for investigations at the request of the military but did not see them again.

According to a U.N report, some 45,000 Tamil civilians were killed in the last months of the war alone.

After the war's end, Gotabaya also took up the extra role of city development in which he used the military to evict people from their homes for land acquisition.

In his speech on Sunday, Gotabaya said he has always strived to fulfill his duties to his best and in doing so he has never been confined to laid-out norms. He will follow the same philosophy even as president, he said.

"In fulfilling my duties for the country I have never allowed room for any foreign forces to interfere," he said. "Even in the future I will never allow anyone to lay hands on the country's sovereignty."

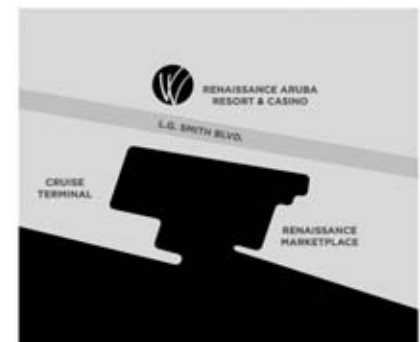
In his years at the defense ministry, Gotabaya was known to be a straight speaker on foreign relations.

The government quickly re-



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UAE-backed separatists pull back after seizing Yemen's Aden

By AHMED AL-HAJ
SAMY MAGDY

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Yemeni separatists backed by the United Arab Emirates began withdrawing Sunday from positions they seized from the internationally-recognized government in the southern port city of Aden.

Both the southern separatists and the government forces are ostensibly allies in the Saudi-led military coalition that's been battling the Houthi rebels in northern Yemen since 2015.

But a major rift in the coalition was exposed during the four days of fighting for control of Aden, as the UAE-backed Southern Transitional Council wrested the city from government forces. More than 70 people were killed in the clashes. The UAE is the dominant force in Yemen's south, where it has an estimated 90,000 allied militiamen and has long been at odds with the government, which is largely based in Saudi Arabia.

The two U.S.-allied Gulf monarchies appear to



In this Friday Aug. 9, 2019 frame grab from video, Southern Transitional Council separatist fighters line up to storm the presidential palace in the southern port city of Aden, Yemen.

Associated Press

have diverging interests in Yemen, where the stale-mated war has spawned the world's worst humanitarian crisis and drawn mounting criticism in Washington.

Saudi Arabia views the Houthi rebels in Yemen's north as a major national security threat, in part because the Houthis have launched numerous cross-border missile attacks targeting the Saudi capital

and other cities. The UAE, which recently began withdrawing troops from Yemen, appears more interested in securing its interests in the south — which lies along major trading routes linking Africa to Asia — than waging a war that appears increasingly unwinnable.

Saudi Arabia had responded angrily to the takeover in Aden, calling for an immediate cease-fire and

ordering the separatists to pull back as Saudi troops moved to secure government buildings. On Sunday, Saudi state TV reported that the separatists had begun withdrawing.

The coalition said Sunday it struck a target that posed a "direct threat" to the government, without elaborating, and warned of further military action if the separatists did not pull back.

Yemeni officials said the

UAE-backed fighters had withdrawn from the streets but still held military positions seized in recent days, and were still stationed outside the presidential palace. Other officials at Aden's airport said flights had resumed after being halted since Thursday because of the clashes. All of them spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief media.

The government forces that were expelled from Aden are led by President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, who has been based Saudi Arabia for five years. Officials within his government have said Hadi wants to return to Aden, but his Saudi hosts would prefer he remain close at hand in their capital, Riyadh.

Hadi's interior minister, Ahmed al-Maisar, sharply criticized Saudi Arabia for remaining silent during the past four days while fighting raged in Aden. He spoke in a video released Sunday that was recorded while he said he was awaiting evacuation from Aden to Saudi Arabia a day earlier. □



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Tanzanian police say 62 killed when siphoned tanker explodes



An injured man is carried from the scene as a petrol tanker burns in the background, Saturday, Aug. 10 2019, in Morogoro, Tanzania.

Associated Press

Associated Press

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania (AP) — A damaged tanker truck exploded in eastern Tanzania as people were trying to siphon fuel out of it Saturday, killing at least 62 in one of the worst inci-

dents of its kind in the East African country.

Tanzanian state broadcaster TBC, citing police figures, said at least 70 more people were injured during the explosion in the town of Morogoro, located about

120 miles (200 kilometers) from the economic hub of Dar es Salaam.

Regional commissioner Steven Kebwe told the local Azam TV that many suffered serious burns.

Witnesses told The Associated Press that a crowd had gathered around the fuel tanker after it was involved in an accident early Saturday and some people were trying to siphon away fuel when the truck burst into flames. Video footage posted on social media showed people collecting fuel into jerry cans before the fire incident.

In a statement expressing condolences, Tanzanian President John Magufuli said he was dismayed people attacked vehicles involved in accidents instead of offering help. □

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North Korea boosts Kim's rising status as global statesman

By KIM TONG-HYUNG
FOSTER KLUG

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— There's no question that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is in full control of his nation. But a recent change to the way he's being formally described in the North Korean Constitution may allow him even more diplomatic leverage as he steps with increasing confidence onto the world stage for negotiations over his powerful weapons program.

Despite a flurry of unprecedented summits between Kim and the world powers that surround him, the outcome of that crucial diplomacy is very much in question amid currently deadlocked nuclear disarmament talks and an outburst of North Korean weapons tests in recent weeks.

North Korea on Friday said that its rubber-stamp parliament will hold its second meeting of the year on Aug. 29. It follows weeks of intensified North Korean weapons tests and belligerent statements over U.S.-South Korea military exercises and the slow pace of nuclear negotiations with the United States.

Kim has said he said he would seek a "new way" if Washington doesn't change its hard-line stance on sanctions relief by the year's end, though experts doubt he'll fully abandon diplomacy and give away



In this Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019, file photo provided by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, right, visits an airfield in the western area of North Korea to watch its weapons demonstrations.

Associated Press

his hard-won status as a global statesman. President Donald Trump on Saturday said that Kim wrote him a "beautiful" three-page letter in which he expressed desire to meet once again to "start negotiations" after U.S.-South Korea military exercises end, and also apologized for the flurry of short-range missile tests.

The North's new constitutional changes, which show Kim's further consolidation of his already formidable powers, could allow him to act more clearly as a diplomat on the world stage, technically signing

a peace treaty with Trump, for instance, or giving speeches at the U.N. General Assembly, analysts say. The changes, which were only made public recently on the country's Naenara website, appear linked to an unusual political reality in the North: While Kim Jong Un is the undisputed leader, it is Kim's grandfather, national founder Kim Il Sung, who is enshrined as North Korea's eternal president.

Kim has governed from his position as chairman of Pyongyang's powerful State Affairs Commission, which was established in

2016 to replace his father's military-based National Defense Commission as the country's top decision-making institution.

The constitution makes clear that Kim's role as chairman of the new commission makes him the country's supreme leader. But it now adds that he also "represents the country." This signals potential changes from previous decades, analysts say, when it was the president of the presidium of North Korea's parliament — the Supreme People's Assembly — who acted as the ceremonial head of state.

"You could argue that the head-of-state business is meant to put Kim on the same plane as Xi, Trump or Putin. It certainly elevates his stature," said Joshua Pollack, a senior research associate with the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, California, referring to Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Whatever the new changes mean, no one, inside or outside the country, is disputing Kim's status as the ultimate decision maker, and despite the new constitutional description, he has already been doing high-level diplomatic work on the world stage, releasing statements with Trump and South Korean President Moon Jae-in following those respective summits.

The North's new constitution is the "Kim Jong Un Constitution," according to South Korea's Institute for National Security Strategy, a think tank affiliated with Seoul's main spy agency. It is clearly designed with Kim's future role in diplomacy in mind, including negotiations with the U.S. and also potential activities on the U.N. stage, the think tank said. Kim will be handling the important stuff in foreign affairs, while the head of the parliament will be mostly relegated to formalities, such as issuing credential letters to diplomats, it added. □



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Guatemalans to vote in close presidential runoff

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — Guatemalans voted Sunday in a presidential runoff pitting former first lady Sandra Torres against conservative Alejandro Giammattei in a nation beset by poverty and unemployment, and dealing with migration issues.

Giammattei, making his fourth bid for the presidency, is the favorite in a CID-Gallup poll which surveyed 1,216 people between July 29 and Aug. 5. The poll estimated support for Giammattei at 39.5%, compared to 32.4% for Torres. It had a margin of error of 2.8 points. Running for the conservative Vamos party, Giammattei has earned a reputation of being tough on crime and wants to reintroduce the death penalty. The 63-year-old doctor, who uses crutches because he has multiple sclerosis, stridently opposes gay marriage and abortion and endorses family values.



This combination of file photos shows presidential candidate Sandra Torres in Villanueva, Guatemala, on June 14, 2019, and her opponent Alejandro Giammattei in Guatemala City on June 13, 2019.



Associated Press

Torres was married to — and later divorced — former President Álvaro Colom (2008-2012), but has a record of her own as a businesswoman, having run

a textile and apparel company. Her campaign platform has focused on improving education, health care and the economy. She also has proposed an anti-corruption program, but her Unity for Hope party has come under fire because some of its mayoral candidates have been accused of receiving contributions from drug traffickers for their campaigns.

Polling stations opened at 7:00 a.m. local time and close at 6:00 p.m., with preliminary results expected by late Sunday. There are about 8 million registered voters, but boosting turnout above 50% will be a challenge. Rogelio Estrada, a 45-year-old father of two, was one of the first people to vote at a polling station in Guatemala City. He said corruption was his main concern. □

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Student dies from stray bullet on way to school in Brazil



Residents hold up a sign that reads in Portuguese "Borel asks for peace. Borel asks for Justice", referring the Borel slum, and with an image of student Gabriel Pereira Alves who was killed by a stray bullet on his way to school in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Friday, Aug. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — An 18-year-old student was killed Friday in Rio de Janeiro, hit by a stray bullet on his way to school, the latest victim of the city's violence. The stray bullet reportedly came from a shooting in the nearby Morro do Borel slum, in the north of the city. The bullet hit Gabriel Ferreira Alves in the torso while he was waiting for the bus that would take him to school. The military police said in a statement that members of a local police unit were shot at by criminals but the officers did not shoot back.

Some residents, however, told The Associated Press there was an exchange of gunfire between criminals and the police. Dozens of angry residents of Morro do Borel blocked the road where Alves died. "This has to stop!" shouted Jaiane Cristina, a cousin of Alves' mother who was standing a few meters (yards) from where he was shot. Some held signs saying "Another innocent death."

Alves is one of 110 people hit by stray bullets in the Rio metropolitan area so far this year, according to data from Fogo Cruzado, a group that monitors shootings in the area. Thirty-one of those people have died, it said. In the first six months of the year, Fogo Cruzado recorded 4,169 shootings, or about 23 a day.

"I imagine going to work and receiving a phone call telling me my son was found dead on the street. I don't want this for my son, I don't want this for anyone," Cristina yelled. Tensions eventually rose between the protesters and police officers, who used tear gas to disperse the small crowd. □

"I imagine going to work and receiving a phone call telling me my son was found dead on the street. I don't want this for my son, I don't want this for anyone," Cristina yelled. Tensions eventually rose between the protesters and police officers, who used tear gas to disperse the small crowd. □

LOCAL



"Take your car off the beaten track to meet our monuments and their stories"

ORANJESTAD - The mix of cultures in Aruba is very visible in its architecture as -like in all cultures-, monuments reflect your history and your people. If you take the chance to leave the beach for a little while and take your car off the beaten track you will be surprised what you see. Anne Witsenburg is director of the Monument Fund Aruba and points out precisely why a monumental trip should not lack in your vacation's itinerary.

The fund owns 12 monuments, out of the 36 protected monuments in the island. "But there are over 300 more monuments on the list to be protected and of course we dream to see that become reality as soon as possible." The international guidelines that apply for monuments decide whether it will be a protected monument or not. "The building or object needs to be at least 50 years old, a special value in architecture or to history or to the people of Aruba is required and there has to be a certain uniqueness. If it was changed too much throughout time or there are already any of the same kind it is a no go."



Useless islands

There is a difference between the islands when it comes to monuments, as Witsenburg explains. "That goes back to their history. Curacao used to be a very wealthy island where many -mainly Dutch- merchants lived close together and that is the reason you find this typical colonial Dutch style buildings packed in certain areas nowadays. They are celebrating 20 years of Unesco heritage last year. Then scattered around the rest of the island you will see the smaller country houses." Aruba and Bonaire were called the useless islands in the colonial time, so any Indian willing to live here was given a small piece of land to build his home. "That is the reason you find all these typical small houses scattered around the island. We actually have the same amount of monuments as Curacao though way smaller."

Magic local touch

Some of the monuments owned by the Monument Fund Aruba are the light house, town hall, water tanks in both Oranjestad and San Nicolas. "We are wealthy in different styled monuments and my suggestion is to discover this world outside of the tourist zone. The book Monumental Guide comes in handy as there are three maps inside that guide you to the monuments and tell you about them. But there are also possibilities to have your personal people guide. And the best is that I can almost guarantee you the magic of the local touch when you bump into an authentic cunucu house (country house) and talk to the owners. They will proudly share their family history with you."

Outside inspiration

The Monument Fund acquires or buys monuments and restores them back into their former glory. Then they rent it out. "That sounds easy, but it is incredibly complex as most monuments have multiple owners due to the fact that inheritances are split and all need to decide upon the selling." They cooperate with the government office of monuments because they set the rules of what you can and cannot do to a protected monument. "We also have the task to maintain the buildings which is an ongoing process. The wind, the salt in the air and the sun that not only burns human bodies but also buildings are huge challenges. Next to that we do education, create awareness and maintain public relations about our monuments."

Continued on Page 14

"Take your car off the beaten track to meet our monuments and their stories"

Continued from Page 13

The office of the Monument Fund is actually located in a monument itself. The building is beautiful and has a tropical style. "This house goes back to the 1920's when it was built as a vacation house by Aruban entrepreneur Croes. He and his family came here to the outdoors as in those times there was only cunucu (countryside) here. They had big parties and enjoyed leisure time with family and friends." Richer Arubans at that time looked outwards for architecture inspiration as that was considered chic, Witsenburg explains. Either to the US (art deco style like the water tower in San Nicolas), Holland (Dutch colonial style) or Colombia/Venezuela. "This house is inspired by a villa around Cartagena, Colombia. The ideas mostly came from the wives", she says laughing.

Sustainable driven

Sustainability is a big thing to the Monument Fund Aruba. Witsenburg: "Obviously to restore old buildings and not destroy them to build new ones is already sustainable in itself. Than we have the technical sustainability as in using the right materials and techniques but also the social sustainability. That includes looking at the non-tangible part of heritage: the stories to be told, the music to be played, the dinners that were cooked in the places we try



to restore. That keeps it alive. Most of our monuments are meant to be lived in so we would like to reintroduce the joy of living in a monument. We work together with private companies to look into that." In their office they installed solar panels, use LED lightning and recently implemented an electrical charging point for electric vehicles.

The Monument Fund Aruba is open every day from Monday to Friday from 8 to 5. You are more than welcome to ask for information, guiding and help. For more information check out their Facebook page stichting monumenten fonds aruba and the website <http://www.monumentenfondsaruba.com>. □

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Arte Sano Foundation: Creative Expression for A change of Life



ORANJESTAD — Arte Sano Foundation believes in social transformation, creating beauty and changing lives. Founder Claudia Nooren Ruiz-Vasquez works with students from the local correction institute K.I.A. and students with drug and/or alcohol addictions on a vocational training base. “We strive to bring back dignity by creating art.”

Arte Sano Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 2012. The name, freely translated, means ‘art is healthy’ and that is the main focus: the powerful healing potential of useful work and creative self-expression of the arts. The empowerment of vulnerable people in Aruba’s community. Homeless, addicts, youth in prison, youth drop outs and guardian-

ship are the target groups. The products vary and include paintings, lithography’s, recycled wood items, recycled material, textile bags, driftwood, jewelry and t-shirts, all items that are a good memory to Aruba and with the awareness that they are created by vulnerable locals.



The goal is to promote economic development through job creation and vocational training. Claudia: “Many people have someone they know or love that struggles in life with addiction challenges or wrong choices. We aim to break stigmas and give second chances. Everybody deserves that. Aruba has a colorful mix of people that are extremely creative.” The foundation’s studio/workshop place is inspired on the Bauhaus movement in Europe and the Arts & Crafts Movement in the US. “Our curriculum is based on the natural and cultural heritage of Aruba. The students create unique souvenirs, each with a detailed explanation of their story behind it.”

For more information please visit Facebook Arte Sano Foundation. □



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Goodwill Ambassadors at Playa Linda



PALM BEACH — Nicholas and Mary Ann Saponara from New Jersey were recently honored as Goodwill Ambassadors due to their 25th consecutive visit to Aruba. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony which was held at the Playa Linda resort. The couple loves coming back to Aruba for the great restaurants, beautiful beaches and perfect weather. □

Full Moon Chanting Circle



NOORD — Join for this first Chanting Circle at the Aruba Peace Labyrinth TONIGHT at 7 pm. Life coach Gea Souge will be chanting "Om" and other chants and mantras for purification, healing, compassion and gratitude for all we have. You will be chanting together and use mainly your voice but also feel free to bring an instrument. Please also bring a shawl, sweater, a cushion or towel. The evening will be closed with a gratitude circle and you may bring some tea, fruit or snack to share. The Aruba Peace Labyrinth is located just behind the Alto Vista chapel in Noord. For more information check out Facebook Aruba Peace Labyrinth. □

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<p>Tuesday at 8:00pm</p> <p>Aruba Has Talent</p>	<p>Saturday at 8:00pm</p> <p>Violin Night</p>
<p>Wednesday at 8:00pm</p> <p>Noche Latina</p>	<p>Sunday at 8:00pm</p> <p>Aruba Has Talent</p>
<p>Thursday at 8:00pm</p> <p>Circus Night</p>	<p>Every night at 7:30pm 8:30pm 9:30pm</p> <p>Liquid Firework Show</p>

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Some call it Sunset Beach



This section of Eagle beach have many names and one of them is Sunset Beach and this is because many watch sunset at this point. It's an location where locals and tourists come together for a good sunset view. During the months of October - November when it rains for a bit more you can have a nice reflection of the palm trees with amazing sunset. This beach is between Casa Del Mar and Divi Aruba.

Fatima was the only survival from her family



Everyone have a story and Fatima told me that she escape from a brutally regime from some part of Africa where still her cousins are fighting for their lives. During the attack she was the only one that made it and escape to an European country as a refugee. This vacation in Aruba was her first vacation in 30 years after she left her country of birth and decided to come to Aruba after searching for an island in the Caribbean to go on vacation. She dressed up in her original African colors to take this shot. Her story is just amazing as a refugee and now in Aruba she told me that for the first time she feel free.

Mom and daughters



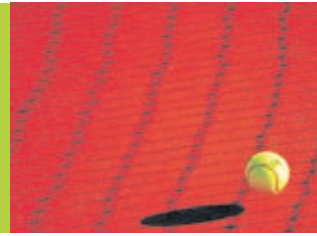
There is a very unique connection between mom and daughters and this can often be seen when taking a photo together. When seeing at the photo you feel like Mom still is in charge no matter how many grandkids she has. It's a very lovely emotion that's always come up when Mom and daughters get together and I love seeing that moment. Don't leave Aruba without a photo with your daughters.

The Old brave fisherman



I love to photograph sunrises and have been doing this for many years but like 4 years ago I've met this fisherman at the Natural Bridge, well like 150 meters from the bridge going north. I've met him around 5:30am that morning and he told me that he has been fishing at the same spot for 65 years and when I saw how he fish I was just blown away and took this shot of this brave fisherman. Around every 7 minutes or so, the waves will cover him and will be completely wet and this can be seen in this photo of how high the waves can go. Hi 5 for this brave fisherman.

SPORTS



In this photo from Friday, Aug. 9, 2019, Pittsburgh Steelers wide receivers coach Darryl Drake talks to a receiver during the second half of an NFL preseason football game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press

Steelers wide receivers coach Darryl Drake dies at 62

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Darryl Drake, the Pittsburgh Steelers wide receivers who spent more than 30 years molding players at the position at the college and professional level, has died. He was 62.

The team said Drake, who joined the coaching staff in 2018, died early Sunday morning.

"Darryl had such an impact on the players he coached and everyone he worked with throughout his entire career," Steelers president Art Rooney II said. "He was a passionate coach and had a tremendous spirit toward life, his family, his faith and the game of football." Drake, a native of Louisville, Kentucky, played collegiately at Western Kentucky. He spent one season in the Canadian Football League and participated in a pair of NFL training camps before returning to Western Kentucky to pursue a master's degree.

Continued on Page 23

REED'M... AND WEEP



Reed wins The Northern Trust at Liberty National

Patrick Reed holds the FedEx Cup Trophy after winning the Northern Trust golf tournament at Liberty National Golf Course, Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019, in Jersey City, N.J.

Associated Press
Page 20

Hur wins Ladies Scottish Open

NORTH BERWICK, Scotland (AP) — Mi Jung Hur won her third LPGA Tour title with a brilliant final round at the Ladies Scottish Open on Sunday. The South Korean carded a closing 5-under 66 in wet conditions at The Renaissance Club to finish 20-under 264, four shots ahead of compatriot Jeongeun Lee6 (70) and Thailand's Moriya Jutanugarn (71). After playing the first eight holes in 1-over par, Hur had four straight birdies from the ninth and also birdied Nos. 16 and 18 in a back nine of 31 to secure her first win since 2014.

"Honestly I don't like links courses but after this week I love it," Hur told Sky Sports. "It was really tough today with the rain but my caddie Gary is from Scotland and he helped me a lot on the course." Hur shot a 62 in the second round, taking just 24 putts. Lee6, a newcomer to links golf, won the U.S. Women's Open in June in South Carolina. Overnight leader Jutanugarn had been trying to follow her sister with a Ladies Scottish Open victory after Ariya Jutanugarn won last year at Gullane.



South Korea's Mi Jung Hur poses as she celebrates with the trophy after winning the Ladies Scottish Open at The Renaissance Club in North Berwick, Scotland, Sunday Aug. 11, 2019.

Associated Press

U.S. men's volleyball team secures bid to 2020 Tokyo Olympics

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — The U.S. men's volleyball team secured a bid to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics on Sunday, beating the Dutch host 25-18, 25-20, 17-25, 25-21 to go unbeaten in the round-robin Tokyo Volleyball Qualification Tournament. Ranked second in the world, coach John Speraw's squad will look to build on the bronze the Americans won in Rio three years ago. The U.S. men reached the Olympics for the 10th straight time and 12th in all, winning gold in 1984, '88 and 2008 and also a bronze in 1992.

"It is not easy playing three matches in a row, especially when you're the favorite," Speraw said. "It is always difficult to go out and play against teams that have nothing to lose. I think we handled that stress really well. We were poised and competed incredibly hard and played a great collective team game." Last weekend, the U.S. women's volleyball team earned a spot in Tokyo after also earning bronze in Rio de Janeiro.

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Located at Riu Antillas as formerly The Westin Resort.

Reed delivers clutch putts to win FedEx Cup opener

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP)

— Patrick Reed picked a good time to end 16 months without a victory. Reed fell behind early, was still two shots behind on the back nine at Liberty National and then rolled in three straight putts — one for par, two for birdies — that allowed him to overtake Jon Rahm and hold off Abraham Ancer to win The Northern Trust.

Reed closed with a 2-under 69 after a breezy afternoon in which a half-dozen players were in the mix on the back nine.

"It's been a little too long," said Reed, whose last victory was the 2018 Masters. "What better place to do it than here. It's definitely a



Associated Press

good time to get a 'W.'" Reed had such mediocre results by his standards that he began the FedEx Cup playoffs at No. 50 and was only assured of two events. Points count four times as much in the playoffs, so the

victory vaulted him to No. 2 in the FedEx Cup.

His place at the Tour Championship is secure. His odds of the \$15 million prize increased greatly.

It still wasn't enough for him to get in the top eight auto-

matic qualifiers for the Presidents Cup, which will be decided after next week.

He finished at 16-under 268 and won for the seventh time in his career on the PGA Tour.

Ancer felt like a winner when it was over. He also played bogey-free over the final 12 holes, and his birdie on the 17th gave him hope. But his approach to the 18th came down below a ridge, and his long birdie putt to force a playoff went some 6 feet by the cup. He made that to finish alone in second, his best PGA Tour finish.

That was enough to send him from No. 67 to No. 8, with more perks that he could count.

Ancer is a lock to make it to the Tour Championship in two weeks, meaning he earns his first spot in the Masters. He wrapped up a spot on the International team for the Presidents Cup, making him the first Mexican in the event.

"When I finished, I was a little down because I didn't get it done and I feel like I played good," Ancer said. "But then getting all this news that I'm going to the Tour Championship, playing all the majors, going to Masters, all that, I was like, 'Man, this is not too bad.' I'm extremely happy, proud of the way I performance. I still obviously want that W, but really proud with all the boxes that I checked off today."

Rahm wasn't quite that happy.

He made a 12-foot birdie putt on No. 12 and reached the par-5 13th in two to set up another birdie, giving him a two-shot lead. And then it all fell apart for the Spaniard. He was on the wrong side of the green at the par-3 14th and three-putted for bogey from 50 feet. His tee shot narrowly found a bunker on the 15th, leaving him no shot at reaching the green, and he had to scramble for bogey from the thick grass behind the green.

Rahm never caught up, closed with a 69 and tied for third with Harold Varner III.

Reed began his move with a pitching wedge that caught the ridge at the back of the 14th green perfectly, sending it down to 8 feet for birdie. He was in thick rough right of the 15th green and looked certain to drop a shot when he holed a 10-foot putt for par. And then he pitched perfectly from 25 yards short of the 16th green to about 4 feet for birdie.

The top 70 in the FedEx Cup advance to the BMW Championship next week at Medinah, so there were other players who took home consolation prizes. One of the strongest bids belonged to Joaquin Niemann of Chile, who was in the middle of the pack and knew it would be close.

He slammed his iron into the turf on the 15th when he hit into a bunker, such was pressure on him. Niemann made a 6-foot par save there, drove the green on the 296-yard 16th hole for birdie, saved another par on the 17th and closed with a 66.

He tied for 30th, enough to move up four spots and get the 70th spot.

Varner might have had the biggest day in that regard. He started the PGA Tour postseason at No. 102, and while he came up two shot of his first PGA Tour victory, his tie for third moved him to No. 29. That not only gets him in the BMW Championship, he has a realistic shot at East Lake.

Adam Scott, who won at Liberty National the last time the FedEx Cup Opener was here, closed with a 65 and finished alone in fifth.

Jordan Spieth made progress.

"This is an eventful Sunday," he said after walking off the seventh green. That was his first par of the round. He got within two shots when he holed a bunker shot at No. 12 and eventually settled for a 67 that featured only 21 putts. Spieth moved from No. 69 to No. 44.

He tied for sixth with Rory McIlroy and Louis Oosthuizen, who each shot 69, and Brandt Snedeker, who had a 71. □

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Kevin Harvick wins NASCAR Cup race at Michigan

By LARRY LAGE

BROOKLYN, Mich. (AP) — Kevin Harvick is so confident in his talent and team he doesn't get excited when he wins.

"It's more of an expectation," Harvick said.

He raced to the 47th NASCAR Cup victory of his career and his second in less than a month Sunday, pulling away from the pack to win at Michigan International Speedway for the second straight year.

With just three races before the playoffs, the timing of his latest strong performance may help him win a second championship.

"Hopefully, we're peaking at the right time," he said.

Late in the race, the Stewart-Haas Racing driver created a cushion between his Ford and the competition and finished more than a second ahead of Denny Hamlin.

"Nothing I could really do," said Hamlin, who drove a Toyota-powered car for Joe Gibbs Racing. "Didn't have enough speed."

Kyle Larson was third, more than 16 seconds behind Harvick. He was followed by Martin Truex Jr., Daniel Suarez and points-leader Kyle Busch.

Seven-time champion Jimmie Johnson will have to close the regular season strong to extend his streak of earning a spot in every postseason since the format was created 15 years ago. He started the race tied for the 16th and final spot in the playoffs and slipped to 18th. Johnson had an early setback, making contact with a wall on Lap 15 that damaged his right rear quarter panel and tire, and finished 34th. Johnson was several laps back for much of the race, but got a break potentially

in the playoff race when Clint Bowyer was knocked out of the race after Paul Menard appeared to bump him. Bowyer began the day 15th in the playoff standings and finished 37th at MIS, putting him in 16th in the race for the final spot. Newman, who started the day tied with Johnson in the playoff standings, was 12th in the 38-car field and that was good enough to move him up to 15th.

Pole-sitter Brad Keselowski was 19th, extending his winless streak to 21 at the track about 70 miles from his hometown in suburban Detroit. Keselowski got off to a strong start and led for a race-high 66 laps, but a flat tire during the second stage set off sparks behind him and was a setback he couldn't overcome.

"Someone once told me faith isn't believing when everything is going your way, it's believing when nothing is going your way," Keselowski posted on Twitter. "Today was a test of faith. We will return and win here, just not today."

Joey Logano won at Michigan in June, helping Ford win four straight at the track and bragging rights over Chevrolet and Toyota in a state where the manufacturers have a big presence.

"We want to win every race, but definitely here," said Mark Rushbrook, global director for Ford Performance.

WHO'S HOT

Harvick also won at New Hampshire Motor Speedway last month, giving him two wins in a four-race stretch. He finished sixth and seventh between the victories.

"We still have to get a lot better, but we're in better shape than we were," crew chief Rodney Childers said.



Kevin Harvick celebrates with his son, Keelan, after winning a NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Mich., Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019.

Associated Press

WHO'S NOT

Johnson finished 30th or worse for the third time in five races and in the other two, he was 15th and 19th, putting his postseason chances in peril.

"The guys around that cut-

off point all seem to be having bad luck," he said.

Johnson's last Cup victory was on June 4, 2017 at Dover International Speedway.

PLAYING HURT

Harvick said he has been

driving with an injured shoulder, hurting it while throwing a nerf ball. Harvick said he couldn't lift his arm in June at Sonoma Raceway, but estimated his shoulder is 80-percent healthy. □

Tour says it will explore pace-of-play policy

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) —

The PGA Tour says it will look closer at its pace-of-play policy, which could lead to timing players who typically take a long time playing shots.

The issue has been around as long as today's generation of players has been alive.

It gained attention this week with a video of Bryson DeChambeau taking 2 minutes, 6 seconds to hit

an 8-foot putt on the eighth hole Friday. That led to players criticizing DeChambeau for his pace and the tour for a policy that makes penalty shots rare.

Tyler Dennis, the tour's chief of operations, says the tour might be able to use its ShotLink technology that measures every shot to help with a solution.

"We know that the individual habits of players when they are preparing to hit a shot can quickly become a focal point in today's world,

and our players and fans are very passionate about this issue," Dennis said in a story posted on the tour's website.

For more than a decade, the tour has been using ShotLink in an unofficial capacity to let players know how long they take over various shots.

The time was unofficial because it was based on when the scorer recorded the shot, not when it was deemed to be his turn to hit. □



Rafael Nadal, of Spain, holds up the trophy after beating Daniil Medvedev, of Russia, in the final at the Rogers Cup tennis tournament, in Montreal on Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019.

Associated Press

Rafael Nadal wins 5th Roger Cup title, beating Medvedev

MONTREAL (AP) — Rafael Nadal won his fifth Rogers Cup title, beating Daniil Medvedev 6-3, 6-0 on Sunday in just 70 minutes at breezy IGA Stadium. The 33-year-old Nadal won the event for the third time in Montreal. The first came in 2005 at age 19 over Andre Agassi, and the second in 2013. Nadal won in Toronto in 2008 and 2018. "I think I played a very solid match, my best match of the week," Nadal said. The second-ranked Spanish star won his 83rd singles title and third of the year,

following clay victories in Rome and at the French Open. He extended his tour record for Masters 1000 titles to 35, two more than top-ranked Novak Djokovic. "He was playing very well during the whole week. So for me, it was important in the beginning that he doesn't take advantage, because finals are always a little bit more difficult for everyone," Nadal said. "I've played a lot of these. I know beginnings can be tricky, especially against a great player like him but

especially when a player like him is playing with a lot of confidence like he was playing during the whole week." Nadal had a walkover in the semifinals Saturday when Gael Monfils withdrew because of an ankle injury. Medvedev, from Russia, was seeded eighth. Spain's Marcel Granollers and Argentina's Horacio Zeballos won the doubles title in their first event together. They beat Robin Haase and Wesley Koolhof of the Netherlands 7-5, 7-5. □

Elia Viviani wins European championships road race

ALKMAAR, Netherlands (AP) — Elia Viviani of Italy capped an already successful summer with victory in the road race at the European championships on Sunday. Viviani won a two-man sprint ahead of Yves Lampaert of Belgium after crosswinds played havoc with the peloton during the final 11 laps of the 165-kilometer (102.5-mile) race in Alkmaar. Pascal Ackermann of Ger-

many finished third, eight seconds behind his breakaway companions. Viviani's Italian teammates worked hard throughout the day and caused the split that left a group of 13 riders at the front before the leading trio moved away from the pack with two laps to go. "I think we did a completely different tactic from what we were thinking this morning," Viviani said. "This morning we were thinking

about the sprint, but then we wanted to make the race hard." With Viviani the best sprinter in the group, Lampaert attacked with 3.5 kilometers left to leave Ackermann and Viviani in his wake. Viviani waited patiently on Ackermann's wheel then surged ahead to close the gap with Lampaert, his Deceuninck-Quick Step teammate on the World Tour. Alexander Kristoff won the main peloton sprint to finish fourth. □



Winner Bianca Andreescu of Canada hugs the winner's trophy after Serena Williams of the USA had to retire from the final of the Rogers Cup tennis tournament in Toronto on Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019.

Associated Press

Serena Williams retires because of injury as Andreescu wins Rogers

TORONTO (AP) — Bianca Andreescu became the first Canadian to win the Rogers Cup in 50 years when Serena Williams retired because of an injury on Sunday. Andreescu was up 3-1 in the first set when Williams called for a medical timeout. Less than a minute later, the chair umpire announced that Williams was retiring from the match, handing Andreescu her second WTA Premier title of the season. The tournament's final lasted only 16 minutes before Williams withdrew. After the chair umpire announced Williams' retirement, the former world No. 1 started to cry on her bench. Andreescu went over to comfort her, hugging her and telling Williams how much she admires the 23-time Grand Slam winner.

"I'm not a crier, but, thank you guys," said Williams as she choked back tears after accepting the second-place check. "I'm sorry I couldn't do it today. I tried but I just couldn't do it." Williams' retirement was the last of several high-profile injuries at this year's Rogers Cup. Fourth-seeded Simona Halep withdrew from her quarterfinal matchup with Marie Bouzkova. On

the men's side, Milos Raonic retired after two sets against Felix Auger-Aliassime in a much-anticipated all-Canadian matchup. No. 16 seed Gael Monfils then withdrew before his semifinal against world No. 1 Rafael Nadal. The 19-year-old Andreescu, from nearby Mississauga, Ontario, has victories over seven of the top 10 players in the world. Her world ranking will rise from 27th to 14th on Monday. Her previous high was 22nd. "I'm speechless right now. I'm the first Canadian who got to the finals and has won this tournament since 1969," Andreescu said after being presented with the Rogers Cup trophy in an on-court ceremony. "This been a dream come true, really. "This week has not been easy. I've had many, many tough matches." The Rogers Cup was Andreescu's first tournament after a right-shoulder injury sidelined her since the French Open in May. "What I've been through the past two months has not been easy," Andreescu said when addressing fans. "I kept telling myself 'never give up.' I'm trying to look at my injury not as a setback but more of a challenge. I tried to embrace it as much as I can." □



New York Liberty guard Bria Hartley (14) defends against Seattle Storm forward Natasha Howard, center, during the second half of a WNBA basketball game, Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019, in New York. Liberty forward Rebecca Allen, right, looks on. New York Liberty guard Bria Hartley (14) defends against Seattle Storm forward Natasha Howard, center, during the second half of a WNBA basketball game, Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019, in New York. Liberty forward Rebecca Allen, right, looks on.

Associated Press

Storm top Liberty 84-69 in game at Barclays Center

NEW YORK (AP) — Seattle coach Dan Hughes walked off the court after the Storm beat New York impressed with the atmosphere he just saw.

The game was played at Barclays Center, the first time during the regular season that the Liberty played in Brooklyn. The Storm won 84-69 on Sunday.

"I really enjoyed it. If I had been at the game as a fan I would have enjoyed it," Hughes said. "That's what excites me about the WNBA in New York City when you do that. When you're here on a Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock with

that kind of audience that's the way it should be. It was a great atmosphere for our players, their players, the league, everything. I felt it. It was definitely an away environment for us. That's what it should be like. That's where the game is beautiful."

The Liberty have played a majority of their games in Westchester the past two seasons. The team was bought by a group led by Nets owner Joe Tsai in the offseason.

The team played an exhibition game against China's national team in the pre-season at Barclays. □



In this Friday, Aug. 9, 2019 photo, released by Lima 2019 News Services, Race Imboden of the United States takes a knee, as teammates Mick Itkin and Gerek Meinhardt stand on the podium after winning the gold medal in team's foil, at the Pan American Games in Lima, Peru.

Associated Press

Americans protest on medals stand at Pan Am Games

By LUIS ANDRES HENAO LIMA, Peru (AP) — Two Americans used their medal-winning moments at the Pan American Games to draw attention to social issues back home that they feel are spiraling out of control.

During their medals ceremonies at the multi-sport event in Lima, fencer Race Imboden took a knee and hammer thrower Gwen Berry raised her fist. Both athletes could represent the U.S. less than a year from now at the Tokyo Olympics, where similar protests would be seen by a much wider audience.

"Racism, gun control, mistreatment of immigrants, and a president who spreads hate are at the top of a long list" of America's problems, Imboden said in a tweet sent after his team's foil medals ceremony. "I chose to sacrifice my moment today at the top of the podium to call attention to issues that I believe need to be addressed."

"I encourage others to please use your platforms for empowerment and change."

Berry raised her fist as America's national anthem was played to honor her win in the hammer throw.

She called out injustice in America "and a president who's making it worse."

"It's too important to not say something," Berry told USA Today. "Something has to be said. If nothing is said, nothing will be done, and nothing will be fixed, and nothing will be changed."

The history of high-profile protests at the Olympics dates to the 1968 Games in Mexico City, when sprinters Tommie Smith and John Carlos raised their fists during the medals ceremony for the 200-meter dash.

The issues haven't changed all that much in the ensuing 50 years. □

Continued from Page 18

He went into coaching as a graduate assistant at Western Kentucky in 1983, the beginning of a career that included stops in the college ranks at Georgia, Baylor and Texas.

"He had a tremendous impact on those who he coached and those who were fortunate to call him a teammate," WKU athletic director Todd Stewart said. "WKU Football was better because of our association with him."

Drake reached the NFL as a receivers coach in

2004 with the Chicago Bears. He moved on to the same position with the Arizona Cardinals in 2013 before joining Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin's staff in 2018. Drake's pupils through the years include Cardinals star Larry Fitzgerald, longtime NFL wide receiver Brandon Marshall and Antonio Brown, who played for Drake in 2018 before being traded to Oakland last spring.

"I'm heartbroken for anyone who had the privilege to know Darryl," Fitzgerald tweeted. "As a man, a

coach, a husband, and a father, he was as good as they come."

The Steelers brought in Drake last summer to work with a young receiving corps that included JuJu Smith-Schuster and James Washington.

"Darryl was a close friend and had a tremendous impact on my coaching career," Tomlin said. "He was an amazing husband, father and grandfather, and it is difficult to put into words the grief our entire team is going through right now. Darryl

loved the game of football and every player he ever coached. We will use our faith to guide us and help his family throughout the difficult time."

Cleveland Browns head coach Freddie Kitchens, who coached alongside Drake in Arizona, called Drake "a really good coach and an even better friend."

"The NFL coaching community lost a really good person that always took a great personal interest in the lives of the players he coached and the staff

he worked with," Kitchens added.

Carolina Panthers tight end Greg Olsen, who played under Drake in Chicago, tweeted that Drake "had a huge impact on me as a young player. His players loved him."

Drake is survived by his wife, Sheila, daughters Shanice, Felisha and Marian as well as two grandchildren.

Pittsburgh cancelled practices at Saint Vincent College on both Sunday and Monday after announcing Drake's death. □

No, there's still no link between video games and violence

By MAE ANDERSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Do video games trigger violent behavior? Scientific studies have found no link. But the persistent theory is back in the headlines following Saturday's mass shooting in El Paso, Texas.

An online manifesto thought to be authored by the gunman briefly mentioned the combat game Call of Duty. Then President Donald Trump weighed in, charging Monday that "gruesome and grisly video games" contribute to a "glorification of violence."

Trump's statements were more reserved compared with his last brush with the subject in 2018, when he called video games "vicious" and summoned game-industry executives to meet at the White House, to little lasting effect.

The Entertainment Software Association, the biggest video game trade group, reiterated its position that there is no causal connection between video games and violence.

"More than 165 million Americans enjoy video games, and billions of



In this Sunday, Aug. 4, 2019, file photo, flowers and a Virgin Mary painting adorn a makeshift memorial for the victims of Saturday mass shooting at a shopping complex in El Paso, Texas.

Associated Press

people play video games worldwide," the group said in a statement. "Yet other societies, where video games are played as avidly, do not contend with the tragic levels of violence that occur in the U.S."

Activision Blizzard did not immediately respond to a request for comment about Call of Duty.

WHAT DOES THE RESEARCH SHOW?

"There are no longitudinal studies that show a link between violence and video games," said Benjamin Burroughs, a professor of emerging media at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. "Certainly, there is no linkage to gun violence."

Burroughs said that some studies show a short-term increase in aggressive thoughts and feelings after playing video games,

but nothing that rises to the level of violence.

"Plenty of gamers and get upset when they lose or feel the game was 'cheating,' but it doesn't lead to violent outputs," he said.

In 2006, a small study by Indiana University researchers found that teenagers who played violent video games showed higher levels of emotional arousal but less activity in the parts of

the brain associated with the ability to plan, control and direct thoughts and behavior.

Patrick Markey, a psychology professor at Villanova University who focuses on video games, found in his research that men who commit severe acts of violence actually play violent video games less than the average male. About 20% were interested in violent video games, compared with 70% of the general population, he explained in his 2017 book "Moral Combat: Why the War on Violent Video Games Is Wrong."

Another study by Markey and his colleagues showed that violence tends to dip when a new violent movie or video game comes out, possibility because people are at home playing the game or in theaters watching the movie.

"The general story is people who play video games right after might be a little hopped up and jerky but it doesn't fundamentally alter who they are," he said. "It is like going to see a sad movie. It might make you cry but it doesn't make you clinically depressed." □

Russian media agency complains YouTube facilitates protests



Police detain a man during a protest in Moscow, Russia, Saturday, Aug. 10, 2019.

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's media oversight agency said Sunday that it wanted Google to stop YouTube users from posting information about unsanctioned political protests or the Russian government would feel

free to retaliate against the American company. The Federal Service for Supervision in the Sphere of Telecom, Information Technologies and Mass Communication, or Roskomnadzor, communicated

the demand after weeks of rallies over Moscow's city council election.

Tens of thousands participated in a fourth consecutive weekend protest of the exclusion of some independent and opposition candidates from the local election ballot, according to police and an organization that counts attendance at public meetings.

Unlike for demonstrations held the previous two weeks, when police made more than 1,000 arrests at each, organizers had a permit for Saturday's event. More than 200 people were reported arrested Saturday after some rally participants moved the protest from its sanctioned spot into the heart of the Russian capital.

Roskomnadzor said Sunday it complained to Google in a letter about unspeci-

fied "structures" with YouTube channels using their accounts with the video sharing site to send push-notifications about unsanctioned gatherings, "including those aimed at damaging federal and regional elections."

YouTube is a Google subsidiary. If the internet company based in California doesn't address the issue, Russia would have the right to retaliate, the agency said in a statement.

"In the event of Google not taking reactive measures, the Russian Federation will consider this as interference in the sovereign affairs of state and also as hostile and hindering to the conduction of democratic elections in Russia and will reserve for itself the right to adequate response," Roskomnadzor said its letter stressed.

The determined opposition to some candidates being kept out of the Moscow election appears to have unsettled Russian authorities.

The sanctioned demonstration on Saturday attracted an estimated crowd of more than 50,000 people, the largest turnout at a Moscow protest in several years. Smaller rallies were held in several other cities. Russia has adopted a series of measures to increase control over the internet in recent years.

A law enacted this year requires the routing of internet traffic through Russian servers, a move that critics claim could lead to a firewall similar to a system in China that blocks political content and prevents Chinese users from using sites such as Facebook, Twitter and Google. □

Don't be duped by these phone and email scams

By LIZ WESTON
Associated Press

Some of us in the personal finance realm have a weird little hobby: We try to scam the scam artists.

We're not out to steal their money — just their time. When fraudsters call to say we're about to be arrested for tax debt, our Social Security number has been "suspended," or a loved one is in trouble, we play along.

This gives us valuable insight into how the scams operate while wasting the time these jerks could spend victimizing more vulnerable people.

We have our work cut out for us. Government-imposter frauds have scammed people out of at least \$450 million since 2014, according to the Federal Trade Commission. Interestingly, people ages 20 to 59 are more likely to report being defrauded this way than those 60 and over, but older people tend to lose more money. The median individual reported loss was \$960, but it was \$2,700 for people 80 and older, the FTC said in a July report.

You don't have to engage with the bad guys to help thwart them. Answering the phone when scam artists call can put you on a "sucker list" that will prompt more calls.

But you can sign up for free "watchdog alerts" from AARP's Fraud Watch Network, report scam at-



In this Monday, Aug. 5, 2019, photo the Samsung Galaxy Note 10, left, and the Galaxy Note 10 Plus, right, is shown in New York.

Associated Press

tempts to the FTC and warn loved ones about the latest schemes, such as these three.

GOVERNMENT IMPOSTERS

Fraudsters are nothing if not flexible. As media coverage of IRS-imposter calls increased last year, scammers switched to impersonating Social Security investigators. The crooks often use software to spoof caller ID services into showing phone numbers for the Social Security Administration or its fraud hotline.

Doug Shadel, AARP's lead researcher on consumer fraud, recently pretended to take the bait. He returned a robocall from a group of these impersonators and

was told the FBI was about to arrest him for opening 25 fraudulent bank accounts. To help the "investigators," Shadel was advised to move all the money in his legitimate bank accounts to prepaid cards issued by "government-certified" stores such as Apple, Target, CVS or Walgreens. Then, Shadel was supposed to give the caller the cards' serial numbers so the information could be added to his "file" — allowing the bilkers to steal the money.

Details of these scams may seem absurd, but con artists are exceptionally good at creating an atmosphere of fear and urgency so you'll react emotionally, Shadel

says. "Once you're in that state of fear, it swamps all reason," he says.

Variations on this scheme include warnings that your Social Security number has been suspended because of suspicious activity or that your help is needed to investigate a crime, such as immigration fraud. Know this: Social Security numbers can't be suspended, investigators typically don't enlist civilians, and government agencies don't call out of the blue, says Kathy Stokes, director of AARP's fraud prevention programs. "Anyone calling from the government saying there's a problem and you owe money is a scam," she says.

PASSWORD-ENABLED BLACKMAIL

"Sextortion" blackmail tries to convince you that your computer has been hacked and that the blackmailer is about to expose an extramarital affair, porn-watching habits or other embarrassing behavior. The email is really just a boilerplate form, but the subject line may include your actual password (which was probably exposed in some previous, unrelated database breach). The blackmailer typically demands payment via bitcoin or other digital currency. The solution is not to pony up, but to hit delete — and change your passwords regularly.

KIDNAPPING SCAMS

This is a twist on family emergency scams, where someone pretends to be a loved one who urgently needs money — to get out of jail, leave a foreign country or pay a hospital bill, for example. With kidnapping scams, crooks pretend to hold your loved one hostage, often including the sounds of someone screaming or pleading. The call may appear to come from the supposed victim's phone number.

Resist the urge to panic, and instead verify your loved one's whereabouts, Stokes says. That could mean hanging up without speaking — often the best approach — then calling or texting them. □

IMF contradicts Trump: China hasn't manipulated its currency

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The International Monetary Fund sees little evidence that China's central bank has deliberately reduced the value of the nation's currency — a position at odds with the Trump administration's decision this week to accuse Beijing of manipulating the yuan. The IMF said Friday in its yearly review of China's economy that the yuan has been "broadly stable" against other currencies, suggesting there's been little intervention by the

People's Bank of China. A weaker yuan would give Chinese exporters a competitive price advantage over foreign rivals.

The Treasury Department on Monday named China a currency manipulator for the first time since 1994. The move, reversing its decision in May to keep China off the blacklist, came after Beijing's central bank let the yuan drop to its lowest point in 11 years.

"Clearly, they are manipulating their currency," White House trade adviser Peter Navarro told CNBC Friday.


China's central bank sets the exchange rate each morning and allows the yuan to fluctuate by 2% against the dollar during the day. The central bank can buy or sell currency — or order commercial banks to do so — to keep the yuan's price from swinging too widely.

In letting the yuan slide, the central bank was responding to economic reality. China's economy is slowing — partly because President Donald Trump has slapped tariffs on \$250 billion worth of Chinese imports — and

market pressures are pulling the currency down.

The world's two largest economies are locked in a tariff war over U.S. allegations that China is stealing trade secrets and forcing foreign companies to hand over sensitive technology. Twelve rounds of talks have failed to end the impasse, and a Chinese delegation is expected in Washington next month to continue the negotiations.

But Trump rattled financial markets Friday by saying it would be "fine" with him if talks got called off. □



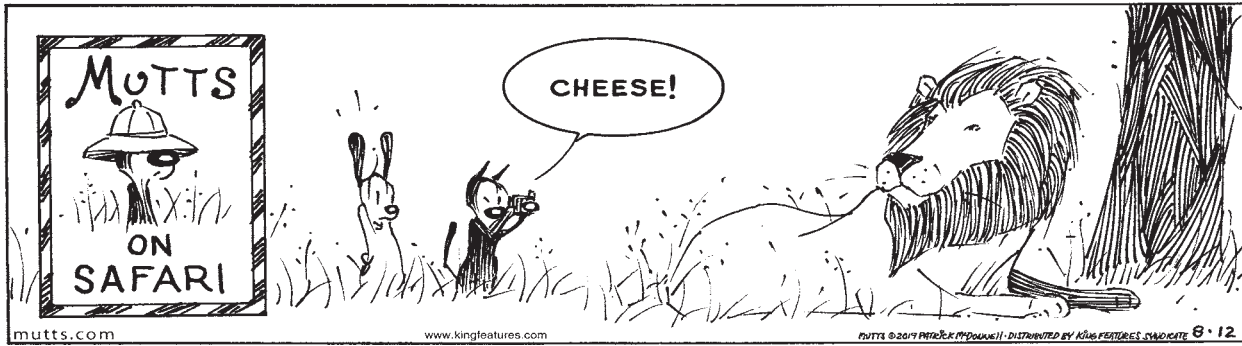
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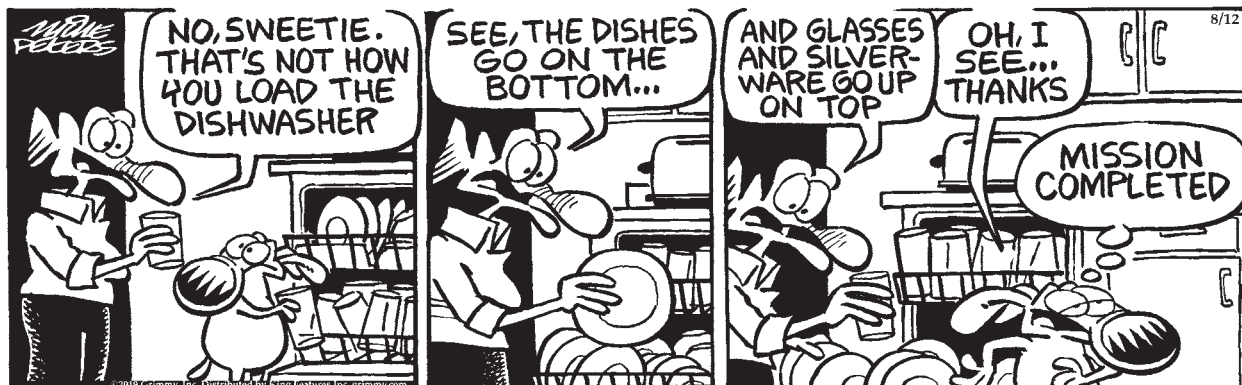
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			9		6			
	1	2	3	5		4	6	
		8	7			3		
9						7	8	6
	2		8		3		4	
4	8	6						5
		9			7	8		
	6	3		9	2	5	1	
			5		1			

Difficulty Level ★

8/12

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

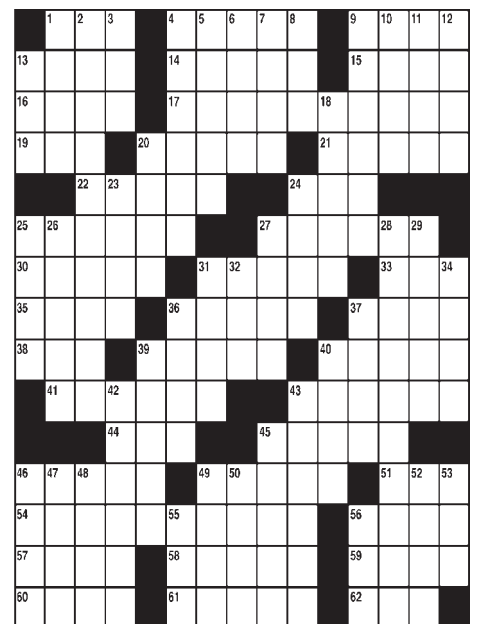
9	7	8	6	3	4	5	2	1
3	6	5	2	1	8	7	4	9
1	4	2	7	5	9	8	3	6
4	3	1	8	7	5	6	9	2
6	5	7	9	2	3	4	1	8
2	8	9	1	4	6	3	7	5
5	9	3	4	8	2	1	6	7
7	2	4	5	6	1	9	8	3
8	1	6	3	9	7	2	5	4

ACROSS

- Lively dance
- College officials
- Sign of healing
- Ridiculously small
- Typo
- Rail rider
- Apple taster
- Made-up
- Last calendar pg.
- Hidden supply
- Takes a break
- Studies at the eleventh hour
- "Girl Friday"; Cary Grant film
- Black-and-blue mark
- Thick juice
- Makes money
- Say something
- Period
- Male deer
- Hard to climb
- June 6, 1944
- Twitch
- for; symbolize
- Overuse the mirror
- stew; creamy white soup
- Cool dessert
- Drag along behind
- Europe's longest river
- Christmas song
- Beach souvenir
- Forbidden
- Legit
- Cruise along the runway
- Strauss' "The Danube"
- Give one's views
- Mountain goat
- Matching pairs
- Tear to bits
- Dads

DOWN

- "Hey ", Beatles hit
- Mistake
- Campus building
- Vilify
- Clapton & Roberts
- Foremost
- Musical symbol
- Lanka
- Most bashful
- Dove sounds
- Be against
- Supervisor
- Digs
- Ruse
- The Mamas & the Papas member
- Piece of jewelry
- Pile
- Optimal
- Numerical comparison
- "I say more?"
- Ethiopia's capital
- Roves
- "Trek"
- Animal enclosure
- Sort; variety
- Goulash



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/12/19

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

PHIL	MATES	ALPS
RIND	OLIVE	REAP
ODDS	DECAPITATE	
FEE	BENS	TIERED
FRAME	GAS	
SKIERS	ALLTHE	
ANNIE	GRUEL	ARC
VEIN	SNAKE	TREE
EAT	FEATS	FORCE
DEPART	REMITTS	
RIB	POLES	
ABBOT	SEAL	BBC
LEAFHOPPER	HULA	
SARI	LEAVE	IRON
OUST	DATED	EGGS

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8/12/19

- Narcotic
- Embezzled
- Voter survey
- Kitchen appliances
- Shaped
- Author Jules
- Hired vehicles
- Competent
- Disastrous defeat
- Tenth-grader, for short
- Head covering
- Wood-splitters
- Put the kibosh on
- NY rival
- over; topple

Curious Kids: What in the world is a slime eel?

Nicola Di Girolamo
Associated Press

Curious Kids is a series for children of all ages. If you have a question you'd like an expert to answer, send it to curiouskidsus@the-conversation.com.

What is a slime eel? - Minti F., Ashfield, Massachusetts, 12

A "slime eel" is a very special blind aquatic animal that lives at the bottom of the ocean.

The correct name for these fish is actually hagfish - although the name "slime eel" catches a lot more attention! They have been called the most disgusting creatures in the ocean. Why? Hagfish can burrow into dead or dying animals by entering through mouths or even skin to devour them, sometimes from the inside out.

I am an exotic animal veterinarian especially fascinated by reptiles and other unusual animals. This species has always caught my attention due to their incredible characteristics.

Hagfish play a vital role in the ocean ecosystem and are found around 300 to 600 feet down on the ocean floor. They grow to be about 18 inches long and have tentacles around their mouths.

In humans, sweat, tears and saliva are released from glands, but hag-

fish release something very unusual from their body through two different types of glands. One gland type produces a complicated coiled mucus thread that is estimated to be about six inches long. The other gland type produces something like a slime bubble. This slime can clog the gills of other fishes and protects the hagfish from predators.

On average, a hagfish can produce about one quart (picture two Ben & Jerry's ice cream pints) of slime. In some cases, a single hagfish can fill a 5-gallon bucket with its slime! This large amount of mucus helps these fish literally slip away from their predators.

In some Asian countries like Japan and Korea, slime eels are considered a delicious food. In South Korea, they are often grilled in markets and sold to eat.

Because they are popular to eat, some hagfish populations are fished too much. Fishermen in the United States catch them and send them overseas to be eaten. The U.S. government has created rules to limit the number of slime eels fishermen can catch. While they may be called disgusting, I find them fascinating creatures that cover an important role in marine ecosystems. □

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When light is lethal: Moroccans struggle with skin disorder

CASABLANCA, Morocco (AP) — Determined for her 7-year-old son to attend school despite a life-threatening sensitivity to sunlight, Nadia El Rami stuck a deal with the school's director: Mustapha would be allowed in the classroom, but only if he studies inside a cardboard box.

Mustapha Redouane happily accepted the arrangement. He knew his mother's idea would silence the school's worries about his condition, a rare genetic disorder called xeroderma pigmentosum, or XP, which can make sun rays and other sources of ultraviolet light extremely damaging to the skin and eyes. The disorder is more common in North Africa than much of the world.



In this Wednesday, July 24, 2019 photo, Mohammad, 6, who is affected by a rare disorder called xeroderma pigmentosum, or XP, waits with his mother inside a hospital in Casablanca, Morocco. Associated Press

"I hate the sun anyways. It gives me blisters," he said, sitting on his mother's lap, his face covered with the dark brown freckles that the school director considered a distraction to other students.

Now 8, Mustapha has already had 11 operations to remove cancerous growths on his skin.

His family is among thousands around the world struggling with XP, and increasingly sharing advice and seeking new treat-

ments. In Morocco, families are also fighting for recognition, government help — and the simple right to go to school.

The disorder affects about 1 in 10,000 people in North Africa — more than 10 times the rate in Europe and about 100 times the rate in the United States, according to Dr. Kenneth Kraemer, who researches XP at the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

Because the disorder is in-

herited, XP is more common in populations where marriage between relatives is high, Kraemer said. Affected children inherit two copies of a mutated gene, one from each parent. A 2016 Moroccan government study estimates about 15% of marriages are between family members.

Living in a country where the sun shines year-round makes them more susceptible to skin cancers that can be caused by the dis-

order, said Fatima El Fatouik, pediatric dermatology specialist at the Ibn Rochd University Hospital in Casablanca.

Without protection, few XP patients in Morocco live beyond their teenage years, El Fatouik said. It is particularly challenging in developing countries, where an awareness of the disorder and access to treatments are scarce, and in poor, rural communities where people spend more

time outside.

Outside of El Fatoik's office, families coming from all around Morocco sit in a waiting room eager for their names to be called. There is a rumor about a new XP treatment.

The truth is, she says, "We only have prevention as a possible treatment. These children ... have to avoid even minimum sun exposure." The main prevention measures: avoiding the sun and wearing protective clothing, face shields and sunscreen.

Fatimazehra Belloucy, 25, has dealt with skin cancer and other problems because of XP.

"If only people made it easier. Their words hurt. I feel entirely alienated," she said, describing how she faces scared looks and hateful comments as she passes by. Her family limits interactions with her, fearful that the disease is contagious.

"No one would take care of me, so I had to do it myself," said Belloucy, who received her high school diploma and is now enrolled in university. She hopes to land work helping with the disease.

Most Moroccan children with XP don't continue their education. □



In this April 8, 2011, photo provided by the U.S. Geological Survey, a polar bear walks across rubble ice in the Alaska portion of the southern Beaufort Sea.

Associated Press

Alaska scientists say polar bear encounters to increase

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Alaska scientists say the chances of a polar bear encounter have increased after research reveals the bears are arriving on shore earlier and staying on land longer, a report said.

Scientists at the U.S. Geological Survey found changes in sea ice habitat have coincided with evidence that polar bears' use of land is increasing, the Anchorage Daily News reported Saturday.

The polar bears come to land from the Beaufort Sea during the ice-melt season, when the sea ice breaks up in the summer and refreez-

es in the fall, scientists said.

The average duration of the ice-melt season has increased by 36 days since the late 1990s, researchers said.

The bears are arriving "a little bit ahead of schedule," said Todd Atwood, a research wildlife biologist leading the U.S. Geological Survey's polar bear research program.

Polar bears usually come to shore in mid-August, but residents have reported sightings as early as May in Kaktovik, a small town about 640 miles (1,030 kilometers) north of Anchorage, biologists said.

Resident Annie Tikluk was one of the few who encountered a bear Monday before neighbors scared it off. Her daughter and two nieces were playing outside when "I saw the bear and ran out," Tikluk said.

"The main issue is that bears in the southern Beaufort are now using land to an extent they haven't used it historically," Atwood said. "And increasing activities in the Arctic, particularly those related to development, the main consideration going forward is probably going to be how bears and humans are sharing those spaces." □



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'Love, Antosha' shows private side of Anton Yelchin few knew

By LINDSEY BAHR
Associated Press

PARK CITY, Utah (AP) — Anton Yelchin died in a freak accident at age 27, but a new documentary seeks to put the focus back on the actor's extraordinary life. "Love, Antosha," which arrives in theaters Friday, premiered earlier this year at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, to tears and applause. His parents, Viktor Yelchin and Irina Korina, the driving force behind the documentary, were there as well. The film is a heartfelt and unusually revealing tribute to the creative force of nature that was Yelchin. It is told through home videos, archival footage, personal letters and interviews by those who knew him, from his "Star Trek" companions Chris Pine, John Cho and J.J. Abrams, to Jennifer Lawrence, Martin Landau and Kristen Stewart, who said that he, "Kind of, like,



Viktor Yelchin, from left, Irina Korina and Sofia Boutella attend the LA premiere of "Love, Antosha," at Arclight Cinemas - Hollywood, Tuesday, July 30, 2019, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

broke my heart" at 14. It's a complex portrait of an artist, who liked to take provocative photographs at sex clubs in the Valley and

was also, unbeknownst even to most of his closest friends, managing cystic fibrosis. "We're trying to continue his

legacy and we want people to know more about him not only as an actor, as a musician, as a photographer and a thinker

and a friend and a beautiful son," Viktor Yelchin said in an interview this week. The Yelchins said they're pleased with the film, which reveals intricacies of their son's life that few knew. Yelchin died in 2016 when his car rolled down his driveway and pinned him, prompting his parents to start gathering materials and even conducting interviews with people who knew him when they'd be in town. By the time director Garret Price came aboard to start the process of making a film, he said "50% of it was already there." Price decided that he'd use Yelchin's letters as a framing device to tell a coming-of-age story through his eyes. Nicholas Cage does the readings of his letters. "The challenge of a story like this is it ultimately ends in tragedy but I didn't want to make a tragic story," Price said. "I wanted to make an inspiring story." □

'Hobbs & Shaw' repeats at No. 1 against slew of newcomers

By LINDSEY BAHR

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Audiences helped the "Fast & Furious" spinoff "Hobbs & Shaw" take another lap at No. 1 even with an onslaught of four new major releases this weekend. From family films to R-rated adult fare, moviegoers had their pick as studios tried to capitalize on the waning days of summer. But although August can be a great opportunity for non-

superhero films, it's not a sure thing. And this weekend some, such as "Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark," fared better than others, like the Melissa McCarthy and Tiffany Haddish mob thriller "The Kitchen." "There are always going to be casualties when there are this many openers," said Paul Dergarabedian, the senior media analyst for box office tracker Comscore. "They cannot always



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Dwayne Johnson, left, and Jason Statham in a scene from "Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw."

Associated Press

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PH MON-THU 5:05 | 7:30

FRI 5:05 | 7:30 | 10:05

SAT 2:40 | 5:05 | 7:30 | 10:05

SUN 2:40 | 5:05 | 7:30

PBP MON-THU & SUN 1:50 | 4:10 | 6:30 | 8:50

FRI-SAT 1:50 | 4:10 | 6:30 | 8:50 | 11:10

ISABELA MONER | EVA LONGORIA

THE KITCHEN

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-THU 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25

FRI 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25 | 11:50

SAT 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25 | 11:50

SUN 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25

PBP MON-THU & SUN 3:10 | 5:35 | 8:00

FRI-SAT 3:10 | 5:35 | 8:00 | 10:25

ELISABETH MOSS | MELISSA MCCARTHY

THE ART OF RACING IN THE RAIN

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-THU 5:15 | 7:40

FRI 5:15 | 7:40 | 10:05

SAT 2:50 | 5:15 | 7:40 | 10:05

SUN 2:50 | 5:15 | 7:40

PBP MON-THU & SUN 2:10 | 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10

FRI-SAT 2:10 | 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10 | 11:30

KEVIN COSTNER | MILO VENTIMIGLIA

HOBBS & SHAW

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH 2D VERSION MON-FRI 4:50 | 7:50

SAT-SUN 1:50 | 4:50 | 7:50

YIP 3D VERSION MON-FRI 5:50 | 8:50

SAT-SUN 2:50 | 5:50 | 8:50

PBP CXC MON-SUN 2:30 | 5:25 | 8:30

PBP YIP MON-SUN 3:30 | 6:25 | 9:20

PBP MON-THU & SUN 7:30

FRI-SAT 7:30 | 10:25

DWAYNE JOHNSON | JASON STATHAM

CATS

PH MON-FRI 5:05

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THE LION KING

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-THU & SUN 7:20

FRI-SAT 7:20 | 10:00

PBP YIP MON-SUN 1:15 | 3:50 | 6:25 | 9:00

MON-SUN 2:10 | 4:50

DONALD GLOVER | BEYONCÉ KNOWLES-CARTER

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be lined up in the top four rankings."

"Hobbs & Shaw" managed to hold on to first place again. According to estimates from Universal Pictures Sunday, the Dwayne Johnson and Jason Statham action flick fell 58% from its first weekend but added \$25.4 million from North American theaters. It's now grossed \$108.5 million domestically and

\$332.6 million worldwide.

Second place went to the PG-13 film "Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark," from CBS Films and eOne Entertainment, which cut through the clutter with a better than expected \$20.8 million. Lionsgate distributed the Guillermo del Toro-produced horror which had been tracking to open in the mid-teens.

"The filmmakers and the

team at CBS Films are thrilled that moviegoers are embracing the world of 'Scary Stories,'" del Toro said in a statement Sunday. "It's particularly satisfying to see families experiencing the fun of the movie together." Good reviews helped raise its profile, although audiences were more underwhelmed after the fact, slapping it with a C CinemaScore. □

J.D. Salinger's books are finally going digital



In a Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019 file photo, a previously unseen photo of author J.D. Salinger is displayed at the University of New Hampshire in Durham, N.H.

Associated Press

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — You'll finally be able to catch the late J.D. Salinger's books in digital format.

Longtime Salinger publisher Little, Brown and Company said all four of his works, in-

cluding "The Catcher and the Rye," will be made available as e-books Tuesday, marking the first time that the entirety of his published work will be available in digital format.

His son, Matt Salinger, said

the digital holdout ended because many readers use e-books exclusively and some people with disabilities can only use them.

"There were few things my father loved more than the full tactile experience of reading a printed book, but he may have loved his readers more — and not just the 'ideal private reader' he wrote about, but all his readers," said Salinger, who helps oversee his father's literary estate.

In addition to "The Catcher in the Rye," the e-books include "Nine Stories," "Franny and Zooey," and "Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters and Seymour: An Introduction."

The electronic publication continues a yearlong centennial celebration of author's birth and his contributions to literature. □

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Novel reimagines US-Soviet space race

By KENDAL WEAVER
Associated Press

"First Cosmic Velocity" (G.P. Putnam's Sons), by Zach Powers

"First Cosmic Velocity" is a cleverly conceived and beautifully delivered novel that looks at the struggle for space supremacy from the Soviet side of the Cold War. As the U.S.-USSR battle unfolds in the book, a tug of war also ensues between the Soviet cosmonauts brought to the program and the strict propaganda demands of their communist state. Two key figures picked to fly, Leonid and Nadya, embody this conflict, as deadly failures in Soviet rocketry put the lives of space pioneers in danger.

Actually, there are two Leonids and two Nadyas. As imagined by Zach Powers in this debut novel, the degree of secrecy in the Soviet space program is so great that identical twins

are chosen in their youth to become cosmonauts — and given the same name. That way, if one dies in space, the catastrophe can be concealed and the living twin can make appearances to receive public accolades as if nothing bad happened.

This fictional twist is brought off convincingly by Powers. He plays with actual Soviet foibles of the space era, including the USSR's refusal to make public the name of the director of the country's space program. As the Soviets did, Powers simply calls him the Chief Designer.

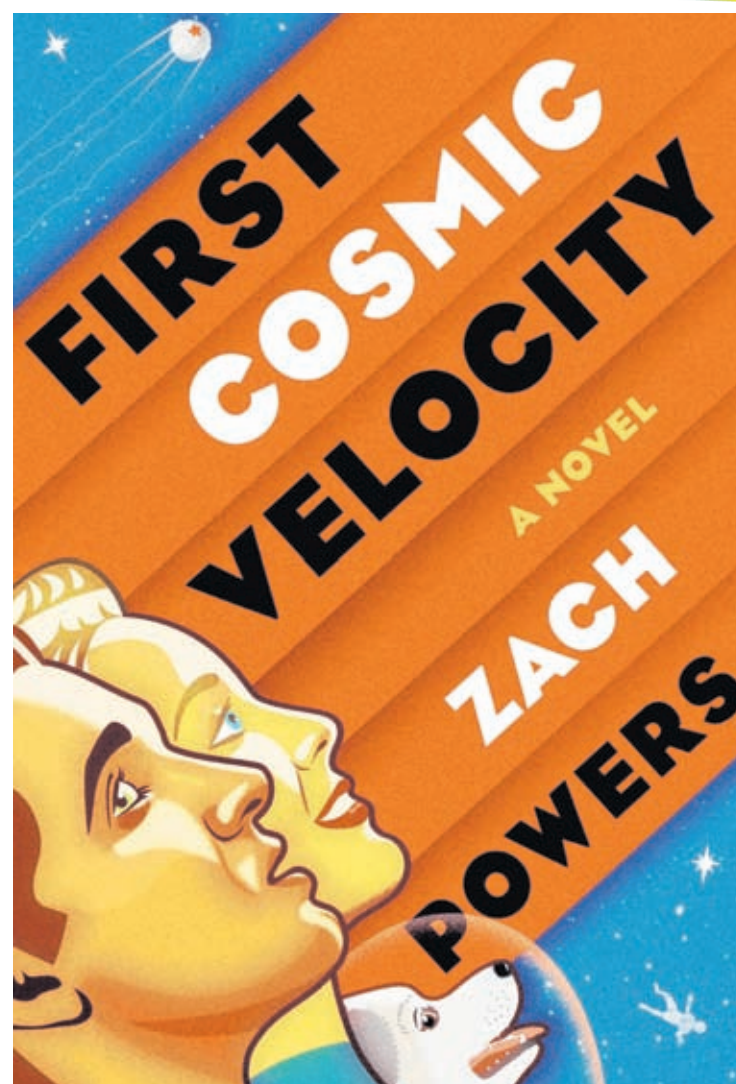
A humorous element appears when Premier Nikita Khrushchev — unaware of the use of twins — wants his little pet dog to be the first canine in orbit, a four-legged hero of the Soviet Union. There is no arguing with the premier, and a search for a lookalike dog ensues.

But in the end, this is no laughing matter.

The space program drama is set in 1964, when the Americans and Soviets each had achieved various "firsts" in the race to claim territorial rights in the heavens and big political points on Earth. Instead of pride and uplift among the program's key players, however, there is an overarching somberness to the narrative, an edge of anxiety over the prospect of lethal failures in the Soviet path to the stars.

Powers also describes the grim lives of the twins in their Ukrainian village in 1950, when poverty, desperate hunger and Stalinist-era brutality destroyed friends and families all around them.

The darkness and gravity of the narrative is mixed with stirring prose and dialogue that make "First Cosmic Velocity" a novel of ideas from the Cold War era. □



This cover image released by G. P. Putnam's Sons shows "First Cosmic Velocity," a novel by Zach Powers.

Associated Press

Woodstock generation looks back, from varied vantage points

By JENNIFER PELTZ

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — It was the weekend that shaped the image of a "Woodstock Generation." And that image would echo, appeal and provoke for generations to come.

To many who went or wished they did, the pivotal festival of "peace and music" 50 years ago remains an inspiring moment of counterculture community and youthful freethinking.

"We went for the music and found something so much more, and so much more important — camaraderie," says Karen Breda, who was 17 when she went to Woodstock. She recalls feeling part of "a generation that felt like nothing could stop us. Peace. Love. The whole thing."

Some other Americans saw Woodstock as an outrageous display of indulgence and insouciance in a time of war. And some didn't look to Woodstock to celebrate their own sense of music and identity.

"There was no one baby boomer generation. There was no one approach to what Woodstock meant," says David Farber, a University of Kansas professor of American history. But Woodstock became an "aspirational vision of what countercultural youth thought they could achieve in the United States."

Breda didn't go to Woodstock looking for a societal vision. She was fresh out of high school and liked rock concerts, and the three-day lineup was packed with acts including The Who, Jimi Hendrix, Jefferson Airplane and Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young.

After lying to her parents about her destination, Breda arrived from Boston to find a mind-boggling mass of people, tents, blankets, pot smoke, patchouli and underpreparedness.

Organizers had sold 186,000 tickets; ultimately an estimated 400,000 people showed up for the festival on farmland in Bethel, New York, about 80 miles (130 kilometers) northwest of New York City.



In this Thursday August 8, 2019 photo, Karen Breda poses for a photograph in a garden in West Hartford, Conn.

Associated Press

Space, water and toilets were in short supply. Security was thin. Rain and mud abounded. Breda and her friends slept in their car after getting separated from another vehicle carrying their camping supplies. It was a trek to get near the stage.

But what she remembers most was happening in the crowd — concertgoers meeting each other, sharing what they had, playing guitars together.

At a time of bitter protests over the Vietnam War, Woodstock "seemed to transcend the anger that

clearly a lot of people were feeling. It was about being together. It was about helping out someone that needed something," says Breda, now a nursing professor at the University of Hartford in Connecticut. "The music spoke for us."

Concertgoers weren't the only ones struck by the fellow-feeling and calm in the crowd — despite scores of drug arrests, medical problems ranging from cut-up bare feet to LSD freakouts, and two deaths, one from a heroin overdose and another when a teen was run over, according to The As-

sociated Press' reporting from the time.

There were no reports of violence, and a local police chief called the crowd "the most courteous, considerate and well-behaved group of kids" he'd encountered in his career. Max Yasgur, the dairy farmer who leased his land to the festival, said meeting them "forced me to open my eyes."

He added: "I think America has to take notice."

It did. Often with scorn. Many Americans saw Woodstock as a spectacle of spaced-out, skinny-

dipping, promiscuous hippies cavorting in squalor — with "little more sanity than the impulses that drive the lemmings to march to their deaths in the sea," as a New York Times editorial put it (while allowing that "the freakish-looking intruders behaved astonishingly well").

And for some, Woodstock would serve as an enduring symbol of the divides of the Vietnam War — on one side a throng of young people gathered for "peace and music," on the other more than a half-million of their peers fighting in Vietnam.

"I'm sure it was a cultural and pharmaceutical event. I was tied up at the time," the late Sen. John McCain famously said in 2007.

His remark — an allusion to his 5 1/2 years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam — got a standing ovation from a Republican presidential primary debate audience. The former Navy pilot would later earn the nomination.

Two years later, the Veterans of Foreign Wars' magazine marked Woodstock's 40th anniversary with a cover story spotlighting some 109 service members who died in Vietnam during the festival and "are never lauded by the illustrious spokesmen for the 'Sixties Generation.'"

The Woodstock audience did include at least one Vietnam veteran, snapped in a well-known photo. Performers included Country Joe McDonald, a Navy veteran who served mainly in Japan. His anti-war "I Feel Like I'm Fixin' To Die Rag" became a memorable Woodstock moment.

"Some people alluded to peace and stuff, but I was talking about Vietnam," McDonald said in a phone interview. The song's profane introductory cheer "is an expression of our anger and frustration over the Vietnam War, which was killing us, literally killing us," said the singer, who helped spearhead the creation of Vietnam veterans' memorial in Berkeley, California, in the 1990s. □



In this Aug. 15, 1969 file photo rock music fans sit on a tree sculpture as one leaps mid-air onto a pile of hay during the Woodstock Music and Art Festival held in Bethel, N.Y.

Associated Press